ABOVE: It's summer fete tug of war time! (See page 3 for more pictures).

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Police: 'we did NOT oppose town alcohol control zone'

REPORT by JAYNE ISAAC

MAESTEG Town Council has expressed disappointment about the lack of support given by police to their attempts to bring in an alcohol-control zone in the town.

Coun Keith Edwards told Insp Steven Evans, who was at the last meeting of the town council, that he was amazed to hear that police were opposing the proposals, especially in relation to Maesteg Welfare Park, where residents were holding a meeting because of problems.

"Having a Designated Public Places Order (DPPO) would give police another tool in the toolbox to deal with problems and I cannot understand your position on this."

However, Insp Evans denied that he had opposed the plan: "It is the local authority that makes the order and not the police," he said. "The decision is taken by the council with the support of the police, but to make an order, there must be evidence and I would say that there's not enough evidence to say that we need a DPPO. You can only have an order for a restricted area and it comes at a cost. We must have evidence to justify it. Analysts in the Safer Bridgend Partnership office have not come up with the statistics."

He said that having an order cost up to £5,000 and in the current climate and with the need to give value for money, it was a consideration.

"It is not something I have opposed, but I have not looked for it either," he added. "A DPPO gives a very limited power – the power to stop someone from drinking.

"We have other powers we can use, anyway, like charging someone with being drunk and disorderly, and we already have the power to confiscate alcohol from youngsters."

However, Coun Keith Edwards said that if police did not see a need for this, why was the town's main park a no-go area for decent, law abiding people.

"People are afraid to take their children there and they are holding a meeting about the problems," he said.

Insp Evans said that a DPPO would not solve the problems in the park.

"My neighbourhood watch Sergeant will be at the meeting and officers have been in the park speaking to the youths who gather there.

"There are issues – the gates are never locked, fences are unrepaired, there is a lack of litter bins and the question of the effectiveness of the park keepers."

Coun Edwards said he was concerned that considerations of the cost of this order may be influencing police rather than the need for it. He insisted public safety should come first.

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 4)

BRYNTEG STUDENTS' FASHION FLAIR!

ABOVE: Students from Brynteg Comprehensive School put on their own special fashion show last week.

For a report and more photographs by Mandy Thomas, see page 14.

Maesteg man 'pulled out fake Beretta'

REPORT by AJ SICLUNA

A MAN "froze" when a gun resembling a Beretta was produced during a confrontation in Maesteg.

Andrew Waite could not believe what he was seeing and thought the gun was genuine, said prosecutor Tony Trigg at Cardiff Crown Court.

Gethin Nicholas (19) of Maesteg, was sent to a young offender institution for nine months.

He pleaded guilty to charges of assault, and producing an imitation firearm with intent to cause fear.

Judge Philip Richards said: "You used violence in a public place. It was wrong for you to have an article which looked like a real gun. It caused great fear and is unacceptable in society."

Mr Trigg said that on April 7, Nicholas assaulted a teenager near Maesteg Cricket Club, punching him a number of times.

Soon after, the area was searched and Mr Waite spotted Nicholas, who then produced the gun.

The court was told that Nicholas shouted at Mr Waite: "Come on, I'll ..... do you".

Mr Trigg said he pulled out the gun and pointed it within eight feet away from him.

The police were called and Nicholas admitted what he had done.

He was said to have previous convictions for aggravated vehicle taking, failing to provide a specimen of breath and possessing an offensive weapon, a knife.

His counsel Hilary Roberts, said: "It is no excuse, but he had been drinking and didn't instigate the attack.

"He produced a gun because he felt threatened by a large man. He has had difficulties in his upbringing, and has a problem with his drinking."

New school 'gateway to the valleys'

BRIDGEND has passed the next step in its plan to build a flagship new school for the north of Bridgend, after the assembly confirmed that its cash contribution would be forthcoming.

The Welsh Assembly Government has announced that it is allocating £26 million towards the new 'Gateway to the Valleys' secondary school at Tondu.

Designed to replace Ogmore and Ynysawdre comprehensive schools, the school will offer a new school building featuring state-of-the-art facilities for pupils aged between 11 and 18.

Expected to open in 2014, it will be built on the site currently occupied by Ynysawdre Comprehensive and Archbishop McGrath Roman Catholic Comprehensive, which is set to move to new premises in Brackla.

At the moment, the two schools at Ogmore and Ynysawdre have a total of 1,485 pupils.

However a council spokesman said that the new school would have a larger capacity, to take account of expected housing developments in the area.

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 6)

'One-day crime wave' hits Porthcawl town

PORTHCAWL was hit by a mini crime spree last week, when three crimes were reported in one day.

The most serious involved the use of a kitchen knife in the course of a robbery.

SEE PAGE 10 FOR FULL DETAILS.

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Sunday 26th September 2010, 11.00am - 4.00pm

Caerphilly Castle, Caerphilly (01443 336106)
Sunday 3rd October 2010, 11.00am - 4.00pm

St Mellons Hotel, Cardiff (01633 680355)
Sunday 10th October 2010, 11.00am - 4.00pm

New House Hotel, Cardiff (02920 520280)
Sunday 31st October 2010, 11.00am - 4.00pm

If you require further details please email
jamie@eternitywithlove.co.uk
www.eternitywithlove.co.uk

Giant welly is a star of the show at Bridgend!

The Flood Awareness Wales' giant welly certainly caught the eye at the Show.

VISITORS to the Bridgend Show had a novel message from Flood Awareness Wales – in the shape of a giant welly!

Flood Awareness Wales project director Gareth O'Shea, said: "We're delighted that our Welly Boot tour could attend the Bridgend County Show.

"We hope that our giant wellies caught the attention of the show's visitors and motivated them to check whether they are at risk from flooding.

"We want people to become aware that although flooding cannot be completely prevented, there are things that they can do in advance to minimise its impact.

"Flood Awareness Wales can help you find out if your home or business is at risk and provide advice on what you can do to prepare for this, reduce the impact of flood water on your property, and ensure your own personal safety in a flood."

Flood awareness advice and welly boot tour dates are available at www.environment-agency.gov.uk/flood-wales or contact the Flood Awareness Wales team via email at flood-awareness.wales@environment-agency.gov.uk.

Youth mental health training

FRONT LINE staff have taken part in a ground-breaking youth mental health first aid training course in Maesteg.

It was organised by the Welsh Assembly Government's National Training Team and Mind Cymru, in conjunction with Bridgend Association of Voluntary Organisations (BAVO).

The training programme helps frontline workers to recognise the symptoms of mental distress and how to provide help and support.

A spokeswoman said: "Following the instructor training programme, more than 50 trainers will soon also be able to deliver the new Youth Mental Health First Aid training, aimed specifically at those people caring for or working with children and young people."

ADJUSTING TO LIFE IN OPPOSITION...

There may be trouble ahead, in the battle to protect public services

WESTMINSTER NOTEBOOK

Bridgend MP **MADELEINE MOON** writes an exclusive column from Parliament for GEM readers.

WHAT is it like being in opposition? Is it very different? These are the top two questions I am asked when I meet people locally.

The answers are, awful – and, yes, very different.

Let's start with the difference: With 232 new MPs, so many familiar faces are gone.

The Commons has lost a great deal of expertise and knowledge and it is too soon to see if there are new members who can fill the gaps.

Julie Morgan did a great deal of work on children in Wales and prison reform. Linda Gilroy from Portsmouth was the Commons expert on the Royal Navy; while David Drew from Gloucester covered many highly volatile and vulnerable areas of Africa.

The big change of this sitting has been what feels like non-stop elections. First we elected the Speaker, following the traditional formula of a nomination from the floor of the House, followed by a shout of confirmation and then dragging of the candidate to the Speaker's Chair.

The Speaker is dragged because it has been a dangerous job to hold. Speaker Bercow likes to joke that previous Speakers have been shorter than him, but only because they had their heads cut off!

Next came the election of the three deputy Speakers. Email inboxes were filled with details of candidates, outlining their suitability for the posts.

It was impossible to walk around the House without being lobbied by candidates or their supporters.

That election was just a brief foretaste of what was to come.

Once we had elected the three deputy Speakers we moved on to elections for chairs of select committees. These are prestigious and responsible jobs, in the past allocated by the whips to the most senior and experienced members. Thanks to the Wright Reforms enacted in the last Parliament, we now also elect chairs and members of Select committees.

Once the chairs were in place, we had the elections for the members of the Select committees.

Members nominated themselves and then were voted for by colleagues.

With more than 300 people standing for Select committee places, there was a further flurry of email inboxes flooded with letters detailing experience and seeking support. I was re-elected to the defence Select committee.

In the midst of this, around 400 people were moving office. I moved to a smaller office but closer to the chamber.

A team of removal staff were responsible for moving the belongings of all 400 people and a separate team set up computers and phones.

Ex Ministers, returning Members and new Members were all struggling to get offices up and running while trying to keep up with incoming work and commitments.

At the same time, the all-party parliamentary groups were being resurrected. Annual general meetings requiring chairs, vice-chairs, secretaries and treasurers to be elected were happening in a blizzard of daily time tables.

Much of the business of the House cannot take place until these places are filled, so it was no casual sideshow that was taking place beyond the events of the chamber.

In the chamber, the great set pieces of Parliament were taking place, the Queen's Speech, the emergency budget and the Finance Bill.

The ideological divide is clear between Government and Opposition, but behind the scenes there are ideological divides within the Government parties.

In the corridors of Westminster, there are conversations of frustrations and disagreements over coalition policies, as back benchers face angry constituents who have lost school-building projects, fear job losses, benefits cuts and NHS changes.

There is, I fear, worse to come with the rise in VAT hitting those with the least income the worst.

A further change being considered is removing the English Children's Commissioner. The two Welsh commissioners, for children and for older people, have for me, been invaluable partners in challenging the need for progress in these two areas. For example, the Older People's Commissioner is currently running a consultation seeking to raise the dignity and respect accorded to older people while in hospital.

This issue was discussed at a number of meetings I have had with older people's groups over the last few months.

I am helping gather information for the commissioner Ruth Marks. I have devised a questionnaire to help people respond to the Commissioner's consultation.

If you have been in hospital for more than five weeks in the past two years, please either ring my office on 01656 750002, or download the questionnaire from my website *www.madeleinemoon-mp.co.uk* and send it back to me by August 15.

Fill in this questionnaire and you could help ensure we have the hospital services giving older people the dignity and care they deserve.

There may be chaos behind and trouble ahead, but the work to improve the quality of services must continue.

HIGH TIDE TIMES

(UNTIL JULY 29)

The high tides listed in this week's GEM are those in Porthcawl. It should be remembered that along the coast, high tide times will vary. For instance, in Barry, the high point will be 20 – 25 minutes later.

DATE	Time AM	Ht M	Time PM	Ht M
22 Thur	03.59	7.8	16.39	8.0
23 Fri	05.08	8.1	17.36	8.4
24 Sat	06.07	8.4	18.29	8.8
25 Sun	06.54	8.6	19.06	9.1
26 Mon	07.31	8.9	19.51	9.3
27 Tues	08.09	9.0	20.22	9.4
28 Wed	08.41	9.2	20.55	9.5
29 Thur	09.10	9.2	21.24	9.3

While The GEM makes every effort to check the accuracy of tide tables, we recommend that anyone putting out to sea, or walking in an area where they could be cut off, should always check with a tide tablespecific to their location.

TELL US YOUR NEWS!

We welcome readers' news, views and other items of community interest. Please email them to ***ggem@internet-today.co.uk*** *or contact the Editorial department, at The GEM, Graig House, 53 Eastgate, Cowbridge CF71 7EL.*

LOCAL INFORMATION

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HUW IRRANCA-DAVIES MP for Ogmore Constituency Office 01656 737777
JANICE GREGORY AM for Ogmore Constituency Office 01656 860034
CARWYN JONES AM for Bridgend Constituency office 01656 664320
BRIDGEND CAB Citizens' Advice Bureau, 26 Dunraven Place, Bridgend 01656 654951
MAESTEG CAB Citizens' Advice Bureau **01656 734662**
CRIMESTOPPERS 0800 555111 ***(Emergency number 999)***
COASTGUARD 01792 366534
GAS (escapes and emergency) **0800 111999**
ELECTRICITY (power cuts) **0800 0520400**
WATER SUPPLY (emergency) **0800 0520130**
HELPLINES
Alcohol and drugs:
DASH **01656 650686**
SSAFA – Forces Help for serving and ex-service men, women and families in need **01656 785435**
SAMARITANS (emotional support) **01656 662333**
MENTAL DISTRESS
(Mental Health Matters) **01656 767045**
CHILDLINE 0800 1111
NSPCC 0800 800500
RSPCA 0300 123 0744
WOMEN'S AID 01656 766139
Bridgend Carers' Centre 01656 658479
Alzheimer's Society (Bridgend) 01656 651490
BRIDGEND COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL
Housing service
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HIGHWAYS (drains, blockages etc) **01656 643643**
(outside normal working hours) **07831 143600**
SOCIAL SERVICES
(general enquiries) **01656 642200**
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Fantastic fun at St John's Church summer fayre as Newton Green is packed with happy revellers!

ST JOHN'S church summer fayre had all the traditional elements of a village fete – and a great time really was had by all...

There was a celebrity opening of the event, by former Porthcawl student Kezia Burrows, who now plays Dr Catherine Llewellyn in the BBC Wales drama *Crash*.

There was Morris dancing – line dancing from the J & C Stompers – a fiercely contested tug-of-war encounter and much more!

PHOTOGRAPHS by MALCOLM NUGENT

Fancy dress prize winners.

Kezia Burrows opens the fayre.

ABOVE: The J & C Stompers put on a line dancing display.

Tug of war teams from the Ancient Briton (above) and (below) the Jolly Sailor put their backs into the task!

CARNIVAL TIME!

PORTHCAWL is promising its usual charitable extravaganza this Saturday (July 24) when carnival comes to town.

Organised by the Buckaneers, the carnival procession is set to start from New Road school at 1.30pm, and should reach its destination at Porthcawl Rugby Club by 2.45pm, after taking its usual route past Griffin Park, through John Street, Mary Street and Fenton Place.

Star attraction on the carnival field at South Road will be the 'Battling Cumberland Giants' – 12 foot high wrestlers who put on a spectacular show. Kerry Marlow of the Buckaneers told The GEM that all the regular attractions would be at the carnival field – ensuring a fun-filled afternoon!

Mum thanks the lifeguards who saved daughter

A CARDIFF woman has thanked the Pen-y-Bont Lifeguards who "saved her daughter from drowning" at Ogmore Beach.

Sheila Woods, who lives in Cardiff, contacted The GEM to say that their actions had saved her daughter and two friends from a terrifying situation.

She said; "It seems that my daughter Justine got caught in a rip tide and she is convinced that if the lifeguards had not arrived when they did she would have died.

"My daughter and her friends are so grateful for the help they received and as a mother, I will never be able to thank these people enough.

"I hope this letter goes some way to show how grateful I am that my daughter was able to come home to me safe and well that day."

Justine told The GEM that the three had been standing in chest-high water, and had not felt that they were in any danger, when a wave had swept them off their feet.

She said: "The next thing we knew was that we couldn't put our feet down, and then we were terrified."

Mike Allen, the vice-chairman of Pen-y-Bont Lifeguards, told The GEM: "Three adults were spotted in the river by a member of the public who alerted us.

"Richard Watkins swam straight out to help, and Huw Ruddall followed with a flotation board.

"They were also helped by two canoeists who spotted the emergency. In all, it took about 10– 15 minutes to bring the swimmers ashore.

"They were suffering from exhaustion and the effects of swallowing sea water."

He added that, in one sense, the three had been lucky. The incident took place at 4.45 pm, and the lifeguards go home at 5pm!

Mike Allen said; "They were just putting their equipment away, when it happened."

Mike commented that the red flag, which means no swimming was flying, but it seemed that the visitors from Cardiff did not notice.

NEWTON PORTHCAWL WI

After the walk, a summer fair

THE July meeting took place at Gilgal Church Hall in Woodlands Avenue, when two letters of thanks were read out from the Nottage and Pencoed WI guests at our summer tea.

The annual walk, which took place at Margam Park, was very well attended, with some doing the gentle leisurely walk, while others just sat in the sunshine taking in the beauty of their surroundings.

The summer fair will be held tomorrow (Friday, July 23) in Trinity Church at 10am. A variety of stalls will sell cakes, jewellery, bric-a-brac, books, plus a tombola. Entry is free, but there will be a small charge for refreshments.

On August 17, members will be taking a trip to Abergavenny, hoping the weather stays fine, and then on to Celtic Manor for afternoon tea.

This event will start the countdown to our big summer show on August 28, at North Cornelly Community Centre. When the business matters were completed, the speaker for the evening, Mr Rodney Thomas of Air Ambulance Wales, which is based in Swansea, took over.

He told members how the much-needed and worthwhile charity came into being, and with the wonderful support of the people of Wales, is continuing to help people and save lives with their swift and decisive responses.

With the aid of photographs, he described the risky and almost impossible places that the helicopter has landed on its mission of mercy. Long may it continue.

After the talk, members were able to raise £200 through a collection, which he was very pleased to receive on behalf of the charity.

Anyone interested in finding out more, or in joining the WI branch, can contact Rosemary on 01656 783772, or Judy on 01656 785477.

BM

Police cannot justify park order

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1)

Insp Evans said that it was not the police who paid for the order, but the council.

"If the borough council wanted to push ahead and pay for it, they can do so. It does not have to be with the consent of the police, but if I'm asked if I really need the order, I would say no. I could not justify it on the stats we have.

"I do not think there have been a dozen incidents in Maesteg Park this year."

However, Coun Edwards pointed out that people would not call a public meeting unless there was a pressing need to do so.

"We want to make that park user friendly," he added.

Insp Evans emphasised that the park was now a PACT priority and a target for the Neighbourhood Support team.

"We do not need a DPPO to do that. It is a local priority. I would not object to an order but it is not a key priority for me and will not make a huge difference to either the town centre or the park."

Coun Phil White said that he was aware of an increase in anti-social behaviour in the park.

He added that park keepers had reported a number of incidents to police and had also told them who was responsible.

"Damage has been committed around the bowls area and anti-social behaviour is on the increase and local residents feel they have a problem."

Insp Evans said that residents should report incidents to police.

"If we get a picture of increasing problems, we can then look at a DPPO if we have the evidence," he added.

Coun Colin Teesdale said that there was no doubt that there was loutish behaviour going on in the park.

"It is getting worse because they are getting away with it," he added. "The actions of the few are spoiling the park for the many and we must do something about it."

Insp Evans pledged that it would be a priority area for police from now on and they would look seriously at the issues.

Coun Gareth Howells added that a check back through the council's minutes would reveal that repeated complaints about the park have been made to police representatives for the past two years

News in and out of the classroom from the Litchard Primary School

URDD CAMP

THIRTY-SIX children were accompanied by five members of staff to the Urdd camp at Llangrannog.

Everyone thoroughly enjoyed all the activities, which included horseriding, skiing, swimming, tobogganing, and archery.

The children had the opportunity to experience riding quad bikes, go-karts, and bounce on the bungee trampolines. They visited the 'Caer Chwedlan' a heritage centre, where they learned about the history of the Urdd and the Welsh language, and participated in a Twmpath Dawns!

Throughout the stay, the children worked well together and their team spirit and enthusiasm was exceptional.

Behaviour was impeccable and a truly wonderful time was had by all – teachers included! Unfortunately, the only downfall was the weather! Diolch yn fawr i bawb!

Miss John filmed a lot of the fun and a special DVD will be available to buy in September priced at £2.50.

Player of the year

HARRY HOPKINS (5M) was awarded 'Player of the Year' after scoring numerous tries for Bridgend Sports rugby under-10s team.

Allotment

THE school received £45 in donations for vegetables sold from the school allotment and gardens.

Thank you to Mr Howell and Mrs Pope for all their hard work, time and effort growing the vegetables. I'm sure they were delicious!

Eco day

WHAT a successful day! An excellent effort was made by the children who were dressed in green to celebrate ECO day.

Every class completed lots of fun environmental activities, including making photos and carrying out litter surveys.

At the end of the day, the children spelled out the word 'ECO' on the yard.

'Green' bottles

THANK you to all the children for collecting 3,000 plastic pop bottles in order to build a greenhouse.

It was assembled by Bridgend College engineering department and the children from Litchard Primary and was officially opened by Mayor Teesdale.

A special thank you to Claire George, the college team motivator, and Mr. Smith and his wife, who cut the bottoms of the majority off the bottles.

All the children are looking forward to planting their pumpkin seeds in the near future.

Friends

WE hope that in September we can rekindle the Friends of the school (FOLPS) as a primary school.

A number of people have shown an interest and it would be great to get this up and running again.

Breakfast club

THE staff that run the breakfast club would like to say a big thank you to Megan Pilliner and Nia Bayliss for all their help every morning with the children.

It is very much appreciated.

Athletics

WELL done to the children who took part in the schools athletic competition at Newbridge Fields recently.

We came back with quite a few medals and Zoe Mountjoy (5C) won a cup for being the outstanding athlete of the tournament!

Vouchers

A BIG thank you to everyone who sent to school either Tesco or Sainsbury vouchers.

We managed to collect almost 38,000 vouchers in total, and our orders have now been sent off.

A huge thank you goes to Mrs Keagle and Mrs Kershaw, who had the unenviable task of counting the vouchers – well done ladies!

Years 3-4 trip

CHILDREN from years 3 and 4 went to the cinema in Aberavon to watch 'Nanny McPhee and the Big Bang'.

The children and staff thoroughly enjoyed the film and all the sweets! They ate their lunch on the beach and spent the rest of the afternoon playing games and enjoying the sunny weather.

Top Nipper

CONGRATULATIONS Thomas Lewis 6R on his outstanding performance at the Welsh Nipper Championships.

He had 2nd in the boards, 3rd in the tapling, 2nd in the Super Nipper. Well done to all the Penybont Nippers who took part in the weekend, as everybody did amazingly well.

Dance show

THE very talented children of year-6 put on a spectacular show 'Litchard Can Dance' – a history of music through the decades - as their leavers' concert this year.

Well done to the children of year-6 and the staff for putting on such an excellent show. This year's year-6 children start practising now!

Special assembly

ON July 15, the school held a special assembly to award certificates and prizes for the top house point scorers and the winning house.

Well done and congratulations to the following two top house point scorers from each class in the junior department: 3S, Kyle Channing and Bethan Howe; 4F, Iwan Wheeler and Lowri Howells; 4H, Daniel Jones and Shannon Pope; 5C, Bailey Ringham and Chloe Wallis; 5M, Callum Benes and Kira Thomas; 6R, Thomas Exton and Enyo Catangui; 6S, Rebecca Watts and Caitlin McConville; 6H, Kieran Pope and Sygornie John; TM, Owen Edwards and Iwan Hemming.

The winning house was Red House.

Year-6

ON July 15, our annual awards ceremony took place.

We would like to congratulate Charlotte Butcher and Daniel Jenkins, on receiving the 'Stephen Williams Award', which is given to the children who remained true to the school motto – 'Only my best is good enough for me' over the four years spent in Litchard Primary School.

Congratulations also to Ella Edwards who received the 'Paul Collier Award' for Outstanding Achievement.

The awards for sports personality 2009/10 went to Benji Edwards 5C and Sian Woolcock 6S. The music award kindly donated by Mrs Lloyd-Hughes went to vocalist Alex Timbrell TM and instrumentalist Jack Knill TM. Well done to all our award winners.

Year-3

WE would like to extend a warm welcome to all our new children from the Infant Department who will be joining us in September.

This September, we return to having two classes taught by Mrs Simmons (3S) and Mr Howell (3H).

Well done!

NURSERY: Congratulations to the following children for achieving awards in the A-Z Gymnastic Foundation.

Ella Matthews received a silver level pass and Grace Thompson received a bronze 1 pass with distinction.

Well done to Ethan Jones for passing his Duckling 3 swimming award and to Ashlyn Morgan for achieving a 50m Rainbow swimming award.

YEAR 1: Luke Florence 1G achieved his Goldfish 1 and Level 2 certificate for swimming on 5th July.

Lauren Webster received a silver level award in the A-Z gymnastics foundation skills, and a 2nd place trophy for a gymnastics competition in Brynteg Comprehensive on July 8.

Nadine Johnstone 1M received her 25m backstroke Rainbow Distance award.

YEAR 2: Louis Edwards 2P, and Liam Kilburn 2H, played in the final football tournament of the season for Pen-y-Fai on July 10 at Pencoed Boys and Girls club in Pencoed Comprehensive.

New baby

The staff, governors and children would like to send our congratulations to year-2 teacher Mrs Hughes on the safe arrival of baby Zack weighing in at 6lb 1oz.

End of the year thoughts

ANOTHER exciting academic year comes to a close and what a busy year it has been with lots of fantastic activities and opportunities for everyone.

We have achieved so much and had so many successes it has been a job to keep up with it all! I also realise that times are hard and we are constantly asking for donations etc.

I would like to thank everyone for their generosity as it is your contributions that make it possible for us to offer such a range of opportunities for the children.

I would also like to thank members of staff for their continued hard work. It has been a pleasure to be part of such a good team.

To Mr Furnell, we offer our best wishes for a long and happy retirement and a thank you for over 21 years of dedicated service at Litchard. Diolch.

Our best wishes and thanks also to other members of staff that are moving on. We will miss their commitment and support.

Good luck to Ms Blakeney and Mrs Sanders and Mr Smith.

My best wishes go to our year-6 pupils as they move on to the next phase of education. This is yet another step along the road.

Take advantage of everything and every opportunity. Aim high! I look forward to hearing about your achievements.

School re-opens to pupils on Monday, September 6. There will be staff training days prior to our opening and the enabling works for the new school development should be in place by then.

So, it's goodbye to the 40-year-old temporary classrooms and a look forward to the new facilities.

Thank you for all your support this year. Have a good summer break and I look forward to another exciting academic year starting on September 6.

RENEWED CALL FOR FLEXIBLE TRAFFIC LIGHTS AT CROWN ROW

A RENEWED call has been made for pressure rubbers to be placed on the road at the traffic lights at the junction of Crown Row and Bridgend Road, Maesteg.

At the moment, the lights, which were installed to deal with school buses and traffic going to the site of Maesteg Comprehensive School, operate on a cycle 24-hours-a-day, regardless of whether any traffic is waiting to exit Crown Road.

This has frustrated local motorists, who find themselves held up at the lights as they travel along the main road, even though no traffic is exiting.

This occurs on weekends and in the early hours, despite the fact that the school is not operating at those times.

The town council received an e-mail from a Newport resident who recently visited the town. He said he was held up both times he passed the junction and he asked if the system could be altered.

Coun Phil Jenkins said that the town council had raised this several times with BCBC and he said that for three months of the year, the school was not open.

"The traffic lights system should be run so that it operates on demand, with the presumed flow being along the main road.

"People are sitting there most of the time with the lights on red and no traffic at all waiting to exit. The lights should operate on demand for motorists in Crown Row."

However, Coun Keith Edwards said that traffic management at BCBC had looked at it twice and did not support intermittent lights, as they give people a false impression that the lights may not be working. He said he did not think they would change their mind.

Coun Phil Jenkins pointed out that the junction existed prior to the school being built and there had been no problems with cars leaving in the normal way to join the main road.

"I do not see any problem with the lights staying on green on the main road unless something triggers them to change as traffic comes down Crown Row. People would wait at Crown Row until the lights changed."

It was agreed to contact the highways department at BCBC on this matter.

Mother jailed after Pencoed driving lesson goes wrong

Report by AJ SICLUNA

A former teacher's assistant drove after consuming excess alcohol and collided with a wall, demolishing it, Cardiff Crown Court has heard.

At the time, 31-year-old Jackie Taylor was in breach of a suspended sentence for illegally possessing a firearm and ammunition. Taylor, a mother of two, of Pencoed, Bridgend, was jailed for a total of 30 weeks.

She had admitted driving with excess alcohol, without insurance, and without a licence and to be in breach of the suspended sentence.

Prosecutor Julian Greenwood said that on June 3, Taylor and a friend had been drinking in the Pencoed area when he decided to give her a driving lesson in his car.

In Heol Las, Pencoed, the car collided with a wall demolishing it, and the brickwork also damaged a second vehicle.

The police were called and later Taylor was found to be nearly twice the drink-drive limit.

Her counsel, Richard Ace, said: "She is not a high-level offender and is a vulnerable person."

The firearms offence, he said, occurred when she lived in Barking and a gun was stored in her home.

She came to south Wales to be with her family and to rehabilitate herself.

"She has a partner, she is looking for work and she has no drink problem," said Mr Ace.

Recorder Catherine Brown said: "You had been drinking, yet you deliberately decided to drive a car. You drove that car into a wall and you were totally unsafe to be on the road.

"A pedestrian could have been killed or seriously injured. You are 31 and you are yet to show you can behave in an adult way in society."

She was also disqualified from driving for 18 months.

Pupils help the Bryngarw Park flowers bloom

WILDFLOWERS at Bryngarw Country Park, Brynmenyn, Bridgend are blooming in the meadows and woodlands – thanks to pupils from Cowbridge Comprehensive School.

The visit to the park was to learn all about the important conservation work carried out by the rangers. After an introductory tour of the park, the pupils and teachers took part in hands-on conservation work, by assisting the rangers in a 'bracken bash' in the wildflower meadow.

Ranger Dan Lock explained: "Bracken is a highly invasive plant which had begun encroaching on the meadows' margins.

"Here, it chokes out the delicate wildflowers and can quickly overwhelm large areas. It has the potential to be a real problem, but with a few good sticks and lots of enthusiasm, the pupils have managed to make a real difference for the good of the meadow.

"More than 97 per cent of the UK's wildflower grasslands have been lost in the last century due to changes in land use and management.

"These habitats are vital to our native wildflowers, as well as to bees and insects which depend upon them.

"As well as being of crucial importance to insects and other animals, these wildflowers are part of our cultural heritage and were once held in much higher regard than they are today. Learning more about some of our common native plants can help re-forge that connection between people and nature to the benefit of both."

PCSOs Rachel and Karl, with their Caerau beat in the background.

'Problem-solving' police win award

SOUTH Wales Police have been recognised for effective problem-solving, being named the Wales Regional Winner for the 2010 Tilley Awards, and they are now a finalist for the national award, alongside nine other regional winners from across the UK.

The winning project was based in Caerau, and involved PCSO Rachel Bargery and PCSO Karl Smith working with the Safer Bridgend Partnership and the local community, to tackle anti-social behaviour.

The project focused on regenerating the Duffryn Road flats, Blaencaerau park, and on engaging young people.

PCSO Rachel Bargery said: "It's fantastic to be recognised for problem solving, and the project was all about improving the quality of life for local people.

"The award reflects on a community wide and partnership effort to tackle anti social behaviour, and it's something the entire Caerau community can be very proud of winning."

PCSO Karl Smith said: "Rachel and I are very proud of the work being done to tackle community problems in Caerau, and this is the result of continued support from local people."

House thefts: police appeal after incident

DETECTIVES in Bridgend are investigating the burglary of a house at Tairfelin, Wildmill, in Bridgend which occurred on Friday, July 16, between 7pm and 9pm, while the house was empty.

It is believed that access to the property was gained via a rear window and a DVD player and a wallet was taken.

Detective Constable Rebecca Merchant of Bridgend CID said: "We are appealing for any witnesses to this incident or for any information.

"We have seen a fall in burglaries in the area in the past year and we will be doing all we can to detect this crime.

"I also want to remind householders of the importance of keeping your house secure. Please remember to lock your doors and windows, even if you are just popping out for a short while.

"Most household burglaries are opportunistic and it only needs a few moments of care to prevent a lot of heartache and inconvenience."

Anyone with any information regarding this burglary is asked to contact DC Rebecca Merchant at Bridgend CID on 01656 679518 or anonymously on 0800 555 111.

'Parking not a PACT priority'

Traffic wardens to leave Maesteg – and they won't be back!

by Jayne Isaac

POLICE have revealed that it is highly unlikely that traffic wardens will be seen on the streets of Maesteg again.

The police are giving up their role in enforcing car parking laws from December, when it will become the responsibility of the borough council.

In the meantime, the number of traffic wardens has reduced as people seek new jobs.

Coun Phil Jenkins told Maesteg Town Council that he was concerned about the demise of the wardens because of parking problems in town, especially by Lloyd's Bank.

"Yesterday, I saw a police van drive through town and it passed three cars parked illegally by the bank, including one on the zig zags by the crossing.

"The van had to stop because it could not get through but the officers did not deal with the problem. They just carried on towards Caerau.

"If they had been responding to an emergency call, I would have understood."

Coun Jenkins said that the chaos in town resulted in an elderly man being knocked off his feet by a car that was reversing.

"He came out of the chemist and went to cross the road, stepping off the pavement," he reported. "One of the illegally parked cars reversed and knocked him over. The driver drove off without realising.

"This is the second incident I have seen in a week and I fear we may have a fatality if something is not done. Those cars should not be parked there."

He also claimed that taxis must be breeding as there are now so many of them parked illegally all around the town centre.

"Respect for the law is diminishing because people cannot see anything happening."

Insp Steve Evans, who is in charge of the Maesteg sector and was present at the meeting, explained that divisional priorities had recently been set for Bridgend and the Vale and anti-social behaviour was first, with reductions in violence, house burglaries and criminal damage high on the list.

"They are our priorities. There will be some leeway in this sector but priorities will not be a lot different."

He said that the traffic wardens were not operational at the moment and were unlikely to become so.

He said the two that remain are on secondment and from December, there would be no wardens anywhere.

However, he said that police officers and PCSOs still had powers to deal with these offences, but unless they were called out because of a complaint, it would not be a priority for them.

"If officers go through town and see people parked on double yellow lines, do they stay and book them or do they proceed to do what they were supposed to do – which is following up crime? It's a judgement call about what they do with their time."

He said parking issues were down to the neighbourhood policing teams and the PCSOs, and were not for response officers.

"They should have other things to do," he added.

"We do not get major parking issues in the town. It is covered by CCTV which report things like congestion and it is not a PACT or divisional priority.

"If we get a call saying there's chaos, we will respond but as for a general parking patrol, you will not have one."

Attempted burglary in Kenfig

BRIDGEND police are appealing for information following an attempted burglary at a house at Heol Pencastell, Kenfig Hill, at around 10.30pm on Friday, July 16.

After a window was removed, it activated a burglar alarm and the intruder left the scene empty handed..

Detective Constable Rebecca Merchant said: "The property was left secure with the alarm activated and it was this course of action by the householder which prevented further damage and thefts from occurring.

"We are appealing for any witnesses, or anyone who may have seen someone acting suspiciously in the area around the time in question."

Anyone with information is asked to contact DC Rebecca Merchant at Bridgend CID on 01656 679518, or anonymously on 0800 555 111.

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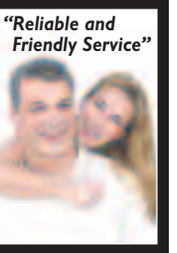
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Vietnamese pair were tending cannabis 'farms'

REPORT by AJ SICLUNA

A Vietnamese man and woman were involved in growing cannabis plants at two houses – which had a yield with a potential street value of more than one third of a million pounds, Cardiff Crown Court has heard.

In one house in Windsor Road, Barry, police found 770 plants growing and just along the road in another house 660 plants, said prosecutor David Thomas.

The potential yield would have resulted in cannabis with a street value of £360,000.

Soa Tran (38) and Hai Tran (29) were each jailed for 20 months.

They had been convicted by Vale Magistrates of producing cannabis and had been committed to the Crown Court for sentence.

Recorder Catherine Brown said: "This is a classic domestic premises cannabis factory."

She said she was satisfied the pair, who had been recruited in London to tend the plants, knew they were involved in an illegal activity.

"With offences of this type, there is a clear need for a deterrent to warn others."

Mr Thomas said that on April 26, the police went to a house in Windsor Road, where they believed cannabis was being grown. The two defendants ran into a rear garden and were detained.

That house was searched and cannabis plants were found. Hai Tran had the key to another house where more plants were being grown.

"They were significant operations, with diverted electric supplies and watering and heating systems." said Mr Thomas.

Hai Tran said she had met someone in London who offered her £2,000 to tend what she believed were Chinese medicinal plants. The money would be used to fly back to Vietnam.

Soa Tran accepted they were cannabis plants and he had been offered £600 per week.

David Purnell, for Hai Tran, said she came to the UK illegally because of desperate economic circumstances.

Kevin Seal, for Soa Tran, said he had been in Barry 10 days. Neither defendant, he added, had received any money.

MESSY CRAFTS FOR KIDS!

LEFT: Children at a previous messy craft afternoon.

YOUNGSTERS can get as messy as they like in the school summer holidays – at an arts and crafts afternoon in the council-run Berwyn Centre, Nantymoel, on July 27 from 2pm-4pm.

Organised by Bridgend County borough Council's arts and community development department, admission per child is £2.50 (£4 with lunch box served at 1.30pm).

'BRIDGEND HAS DRINKING PROBLEM' – councillors are told

BRIDGEND is almost at the top of the league when it comes to drinking.

This information was given to Maesteg Town Council by Coun Tom Beedle in his report from a meeting of the town and community council forum.

The forum was addressed by Claire Carvel of the Substance Misuse Action Team.

She told members that Bridgend county has the fourth highest alcohol consumption in Wales and the fourth highest incidence of binge drinking.

The borough also has the fifth highest level of alcohol-related deaths in men and the third highest level of alcohol-related hospital admissions.

The borough is 14th out of the 22 councils in Wales when it comes to alcohol-related violent crime.

Coun Beedle said that Bridgend was now a hot spot for alcohol misuse.

He told councillors that while there was no separate data for Maesteg, there was no doubt that the community suffered from alcohol-related offences – but all the treatment services were in Bridgend.

Insp Steve Evans said that there was no increase in violent crime related to alcohol in Maesteg, although there had been some assaults in Maesteg Welfare Park, which had been reported to police.

Coun Keith Edwards informed councillors that he had attended a seminar on the night-time economy in Bridgend and could testify that Maesteg does not have the problems seen in Bridgend town centre at night.

Fantastic news for Tondu...

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1)

The new school will follow Assembly policy by including facilities that can be used by local residents.

The funding has been announced by the Welsh Assembly Government as part of a £144 million investment in schools across Wales.

The deputy leader of Bridgend County Borough Council (BCBC), Coun David Sage, said: "This is fantastic news and a real boost for local education. It follows a recent Estyn report which has praised the standard of education in Bridgend county borough.

"The new school will offer pupils from our valley areas a first-class learning environment."

Coun Alana Davies, the BCBC cabinet member for children and young people, added: "The Gateway to the Valleys school will deliver exciting opportunities for young people and provide them with the very best start in life."

The total cost of the new school will be £39 million, and BCBC has already set aside the £13 million that it needs to contribute.

Post box stays ...while post office opens elsewhere

THE re-opening of Caerau Post Office on July 26 could take place with the post box still 'in situ' outside the old office premises.

Coun Steve Smith said that while the post office was being relocated to the Spar shop in Caerau Road, the post box was not. Post Office counters have said it is a matter for the Royal Mail.

Coun Smith told Maesteg Town Council that people would have to walk half a mile to post a letter in the existing box after the post office counter closes at 5.30pm.

"We need a post box outside the new office," he said.

However, Coun White said that during the day, people could hand their mail over the counter to be collected. He called for a strategic survey of the location of post boxes in Caerau.

The town council will write to the Royal Mail and urge them to carry out this survey, to ensure that the boxes were located in the most appropriate places.

YOUR CHANCE TO SHARE THE COMMUNITY NEWS

NORTH BRIDGEND NEWS

A message for all readers in the north of Bridgend who would like to have items included in the community news columns of The GEM:

If you wish to submit reports on any social activity in this region, please contact me.

I am very approachable and will endeavour to include every newsworthy subject.

Contact details: CLIVE MITCHELL
1 Tyn-Y-Coed Close, Sarn, Bridgend CF32 9NQ
TEL: 01656 725399
email: tynycoed1@yahoo.co.uk

Happy retirement!

GOOD wishes on his retirement are extended to Mr Islwyn Thomas, headteacher at Brynmenyn primary school.

He started his teaching career at St Bride's school where he taught for nine years, and then became deputy head at Tynyrheol primary school for nine years.

From there, he was promoted to headteacher at Brynmenyn primary school, where he has remained for the last 17 years.

Islwyn was highly respected within the local community, by the staff at the school and, most of all, the pupils – each of whom he knew by their Christian name.

He believed in children taking part in physical education, and a number of pupils over the years had been selected for Bridgend and District rugby and basketball teams.

His belief in the self-expression of pupils was demonstrated in the quality of the concerts held at the school.

At a recent function, he was warmly praised by the chair of governors, Mr David Jenkins, governor at the school for over 20 years and chair for over 10.

I wish Mr Thomas a long, healthy and happy retirement.

Meals threat

SINCE its closure, the old Lyric cinema church has been renovated by Aberkenfig Bible Church, and the building has been used extensively for the benefit of the community.

Organised by volunteers from the church, they hold youth clubs and arrange garden clearing for elderly people who can longer maintain their gardens.

They also ran a café at the church for members of the community who were able to obtain a cooked meal at minimal cost.

Unfortunately, through lack of funding, this essential function is threatened with closure. Let us hope local firms will come forward to help them remain open.

Retired club

MEMBERS of Aberkenfig Retired Persons Club were concerned to be informed that the Aberkenfig Bible Church central café would be closing through lack of funds.

The café was regularly used by individual members of the club who for various reasons would not have a cooked meal for the day, without the existence of the café.

Members were pleased to be recently entertained by pupils from Tondu primary school. They were from Mr G Davies and Mr Lewis's classes and put on a play depicting prehistoric animals and the attempts of a policeman to prevent these beasts attacking members of the public!

There was a variety of dancing and songs to accompany the drama, which was thoroughly enjoyed by the members.

The club meets at the Len Evans Centre, Heol Persondy, Aberkenfig every Wednesday afternoon between 2pm-4pm.

New members are always welcome and more information can be obtained by phoning Joyce/Tom on 01656 720823/720026.

Summer concert

I RECENTLY attended the summer concert of Brackla Community Chorus at the Community Centre.

The mixed choir started off with songs from popular shows such as *Kiss me Kate*, *My Fair Lady* and *Carousel*.

The stars of the evening were the Archbishop McGrath Roman Catholic secondary school junior section orchestra. Fourteen-year-old Sebastian Waters, a grade four bassoonist sang *Caro Mio Ben*, without the aid of a microphone. Sebastian has been invited to sing with the 'Only Boys Aloud' choir trained by the musical director of the adult choir in the Welsh National Eisteddfod.

There was a solo by 13-year-old Phoebe Waters, on the oboe and then came a saxophone duet by two 13-year-olds Jordan Parker and Lloyd Smith, who had only played together for 12 months.

The choir followed this with songs from *Nabucco*, *The Lord of the Rings* and *Titanic*, before the full orchestra, under their musical director Glyn Price, brilliantly played 'Galloping Home' and 'Sloop John B'.

Mr Simon Grey, who only formed the wind band this term, conducted the band in their versions of the 'Mini Suite' and 'Bandstand Blues'.

The orchestra was conducted by the youngster Sebastian Waters in 'The Tempest' and finally, came a variety of songs by the choir from '*Les Miserables,* interspersed with solos by 13-year-old Connie Osgood- Finney, and versatile young tenor Stephan Ulberini.

WI quiz

ABERKENFIG and District Women's Institute were among WI groups at the Hi Tide in Porthcawl, ready to take on each other in the Glamorgan Federation Quiz.

Each area WI had submitted one team of four ladies. There were six categories of questions, among which were entertainment and science.

Quizmaster was Sally Mabey and after the examiners from the Board of Trustees had finished counting the correct answers, the winners were announced.

The new Quiz Cup went to Pencoed. who were first with 54 points. Pentyrch were second, and St Athan, Miskin and Llanblethian came joint third.

The Aberkenfig team included Eunice Williams, Peggy Jones, Dilys Mitchell and Sally Jones, whose final score of 42 was nothing to be ashamed of.

New members and visitors are always welcome to the meetings at 2pm on the second Wednesday of each month at the Welfare Hall, Heol Persondy in Aberkenfig.

More details can be found on www.cob-webs.uk.net.

Nature trail

MEMBERS of the South and West Wales Wildlife Trust are organising activities for children aged up to 12 at Parc Slip nature reserve visitor centre, Tondu over the summer period.

The next session is on Wednesday, July 28 between 10am-2pm. It is recommended that they bring a packed lunch, and wear appropriate clothing and footwear. The cost is £3 per child.

It will encourage children to look for creatures that live under water by pond dipping, looking for mini beasts in the undergrowth and seeking out scavengers.

Bridges into work

THERE is a first aid course suitable for adults seeking work in a variety of industries, at Wyndham Boys and Girls Club, Ogmore Vale, on Friday, July 30 between 9.30am-4pm.

For more information, phone Rachael Herbert on 07528 364358.

Sparkling talk on the power of precious stones

SOUTHERNDOWN WI NEWS

PRESIDENT Rhiannon Gaen chaired the July meeting of Southerndown WI and immediately introduced the speaker before any other business.

Mr Bruce Hawkins gave a talk, with slides, about diamonds.

Glamour, value, luxury, rarity, expense – diamonds can be associated with all of these.

Diamond means eternity, is the hardest substance (carbon) known to man, cannot be crushed, and holds its value.

Diamonds are found in various parts of the world, curiously not in the US or in south Wales, where surely there have been watchful excavators. They are mined in extreme and often diabolical conditions.

Most of the larger diamonds are from Africa, the largest known in the world being the Cullinan diamond, a 3,000-carat gem. One carat equals 200 mllg.

These priceless gems can be seen in the British Crown Jewels collection – referred to by the royal family as 'grandma's chips' – some equally precious examples are in the Kremlin.

Diamonds might be a girl's best friend, but they can be said to be the good friends of gangsters and gunmen because they help to maintain their lifestyles. It is perhaps worth mentioning that the only known pair of identical diamonds are earrings belonging to the Queen.

There will be a charity afternoon tea on July 28 at the home of Wilma Lock in Southerndown, 2pm-4pm.

This is an ACWW 'Light a candle' event in aid of Indian women enterprises. Usual stalls, everyone welcome.

There is no meeting in August and the next monthly meeting is on September 9 at St Brides Major church hall, 7.15pm.

Belinda Ashong will be enlightening and educating members about 'Our Heritage Coast'.

Miliband (*senior*) puts his case as the next leader to Bridgend meeting

OGMORE MP Huw Irranca-Davies welcomed Labour Party leadership candidate and Shadow Foreign Secretary, David Miliband MP to the constituency last Friday, for a public meeting at the new Construction Academy in Bridgend College.

More than 140 people – Labour Party members, public, college staff and students, and sixth form students from across the borough – came to hear him outline his vision for the future of the Labour Party and the country.

He was then questioned by members of the audience..

A spokesman reported that the meeting, chaired by Huw Irranca-Davies, lasted more than an hour.

David Miliband was interrogated on why he should lead the party into the next general election, including questions on further education funding, graduate employment and the role of the UK in global politics.

David Miliband MP during the question and answer session.

The Ogmore MP commented: "To get 140 people attending a public meeting at midday on a Friday clearly shows the level of interest in politics in this area.

"People are interested in the future of the party that represents them and I am in no doubt that David, as a candidate, did not disappoint.

"He was accomplished and offered a clear vision for the future of the Labour Party and for the country."

Mr Miliband said afterwards: "I really enjoyed my visit last week. I was very grateful to have had the chance to meet so many people.

"The discussion we had around the future of the Labour Party and the country, clearly showed the passion in the community to take on the Tories and stand up for Labour values.

"The college is an inspiring place and the level of enthusiasm and hard work that it fosters is a tribute all the students and teachers."

David Miliband MP and a Bridgend College plumbing student at the college's construction academy.

Two years for heroin dealer

by AJ SICLUNA

A HEROIN dealer has been jailed for two years at Cardiff Crown Court.

The court was told that when 38-year-old Neil Stokes was arrested on March 30, he said he knew the police were looking for him.

Stokes, of Bridgend, was jailed for two years after admitting possessing heroin with intent to supply.

Prosecutor Tony Trigg said that Stokes became involved in supplying the drug in order to have money to fund his own addiction.

He said police officers searched Stokes' home and under a pillow found 44 wraps of heroin worth £440, and further wraps of heroin worth £250.

The court heard that Stokes claimed to the police that all the heroin was for his own use.

His counsel, Owen Williams, said: "This is the first time he has committed a drugs-related offence. He is currently free of his addiction and is motivated to remain so."

Said Judge Philip Richards: "The circulation of heroin in our community is a serious matter.

"It brings in its wake degradation, poverty and criminal behaviour."

MAESTEG NEWS IN BRIEF

Problems at bus station

FIRST CYMRU has contacted Maesteg police about problems at the town's bus station, with taxis and illegally-parked cars obstructing buses entering and leaving the station.

The bus company initially contacted the town council, but members said that they should refer the problems directly to Insp Steve Evans at the police station and this has now been done.

TWO photographs from Maesteg's past are to be framed and placed on display in the council chamber.

One pictures Maesteg Male Voice Choir, which won the National Eisteddfod in 1919 and the other a picture of the visit to Maesteg by the Queen Mary in 1938.

A REQUEST for a handrail on the steps leading from Commercial Street to Penygarn Terrace has been referred to BCBC by Maesteg Town Council.

A SLATE memorial plaque commemorating the mining industry in the Llynfi Valley is to be placed outside Maesteg Town Council offices – subject to agreement from CADW as it is a listed building. The plaque will be placed near the coal dram located outside the offices which the town council has now agreed to clean and paint.

The plaque has been provided by the Llynfi Valley Historical Society.

A PETITION signed by 156 residents has been received by the town council.

It is concerned with road safety issues at Nantycrynwydd, near the Sports Centre.

Residents are campaigning for a pavement and a street light, as the road is used for pedestrian access to the centre.

Cars also park in the street, often double parked, on the pavement or on the grassed area.

The borough council has said that the poor street lighting will be looked into but the pavement issue is one that there is no funding for. The work will cost about £3,000.

Maesteg Town Council has made donations to the following charities: Children with Leukaemia, £100; Ty Hafan, £100.

THREE local men who intend to trek to the top of Kilimanjaro in September to raise money for Velindre Hospital are being sponsored by the town council.

It will donate £200 to each of the men who are Richard Collins, L Griffiths and L Powell. Each has to raise £3,500 in order to take part.

Money for this was raised at the Party in the Park and the organisers donated £200 from this towards the town's councils bid to re-open the toilet at Maesteg Welfare Park.

CAROLINE MARLOW'S name is to be added to the Caerau Gateway feature by Maesteg Town Council, Mrs Marlow died recently from cancer.

Councillors heard that she was well known and respected in Caerau for her work with the Noddfa Community Hub and Communities First.

AREAS throughout Maesteg affected by Japanese knotweed and Himalayan balsam have been highlighted by the town council and forwarded to BCBC for action to be taken; 14 sites have been identified to date.

Summer fayre

ALL Saints Church, Victoria Avenue, Porthcawl is holding a summer fayre on Saturday, August 7, from 11.30am, with all the usual stalls, and lunches from 12pm.

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CHRIS NOLAN'S 'INCEPTION' IS A MIND-BENDING, JAW-DROPPING SPECTACLE

SCREEN TALK

by GARETH JAMIESON

CHRIS NOLAN had already established himself as a director par excellence with the likes of *Memento, Insomnia,* and his reboot of the Batman franchise, *Batman Begins*.

However, it was with Batman sequel The Dark Knight that Nolan really shot up the league, the mix of outstanding reviews coupled with enough box office to make it (briefly) the second highest grossing film of all time, marking Nolan as a big-time player.

While a third Batman outing is currently bubbling under (mooted for a July 2012 release), Nolan afficionados will have to 'make do' with *Inception* in the meantime. Dom Cobb (Leonardo DiCaprio) is a skilled thief, stealing valuable secrets from deep within the subconscious during the dream state. Cobb's ability has made him an important player in this world of corporate espionage, but it has also made him an international fugitive and cost him his family. However, Cobb is offered a shot at clearing his name by Saito (Ken Watanabe), who hires Cobb and his team to plant an idea into the head of rival Robert Fischer Jr (Cillian Murphy).

Hiring student Ariadne (Ellen Page) to construct the dreams for Fischer to fall into, Cobb and his team begin a dangerous game where anything, and anyone, could derail the plan...

The concept for *Inception* couldn't be much more elevated for an apparent summer blockbuster; after all, while many of this summer's efforts are either adaptations of existing properties, or have a synopsis you can write on the back of a matchbox, *Inception* is something far more cerebral and dense – it is also, hands down, the finest film of the year so far.

The omens were, of course, good; after all, Chris Nolan's critical and commercial stock have never been higher, and the success of *The Dark Knight* afforded him far more freedom in terms of his decisions, but while he could have conjured up a film bloated and excessive, instead he creates a work that is expansive, thoroughly captivating, and visually superb. It is arguably the culmination of what he has achieved so far, the narrative trickery and questions of perception that have been prevalent in his work from the very beginning married to the confidence of his ability in terms of sweeping, grand visuals that made *The Dark Knight* such a triumph.

But Nolan doesn't merely retread previous achievements, instead combining everything he's done so far and presenting it in such a jaw-dropping manner that you will be astounded.

The level of technical ingenuity on show is quite astonishing, Nolan managing to create some truly inspired set-pieces that highlight just how skilled a director he is.

From the zero gravity battle in a revolving hotel hallway, the film's explosive opening, or the snow-set climax, Nolan's use of real locations and performers creates a tangible experience. The film feels utterly realistic, giving these action scenes a realistic feel that is all the more pleasing in this age of CGI overreliance.

His use of colours and shades to indicate different mood and realities is also a neat touch, with both the score and visual feeling echoing the influences of the James Bond films Nolan so loves (how good would a Nolan-directed Bond be and where would he take the character? An intriguing proposition) but again these influences are refracted through Nolan's lens, creating a world that is thoroughly exciting and eye-catching.

Given that this is the first time Nolan has scripted a film by himself (having previously worked with his brother Jonathan), it would have been easy for him to have fallen into the trap of making the film too dense. Yet despite the subject matter and words such as 'existentialist' being bandied around, at the heart is the familiar tropes of the heist movie; one final job, a man trying to clear his name – though this is far removed from the likes of the *Ocean's* franchise, wearing its brain on its sleeve and conjuring a fresh and highly original take on the genre.

Nolan's never been short of skilled actors willing to work with him, and his first team-up with Leonardo DiCaprio bears fine fruit, the actor maintaining his rich run of form with another excellent turn.

On the surface cool and collected, it is Cobb's inner conciousness that the drama of the character unfolds, and DiCaprio is more than up to the task, providing a performance that is both relaxed yet intense, revealing the layers of Nolan's story slowly and with great care – it is certainly one of the actor's finest turns yet.

Alongside DiCaprio is an excellent cast who do their fair share, from Ellen Page's turn as the eyes of the audience as we learn more about the nature of the 'inception', to Joseph Gordon-Levitt's measured turn as Cobb's right-hand man.

The former takes a character that could have so easily been a cipher and gives it depth and shade, while also proving there is more to her acting ability than the smart-mouth characters she played in *Juno* and *Whip It*. The latter is solid and dependable in a role that requires solidness and dependability.

The remainder of the cast play to perfection, Marion Cottillard, Ken Watanabe and (the outstanding) Tom Hardy all fleshing out Nolan's characters and world and bringing excellent performances with them.

Try as you might, it's hard to pick out flaws in such an outstanding and mind-bending piece of work, the only one being that, to some people expecting a stylistic redux of *The Dark Knight*, this may well be a little too on the 'artistic' side; but for those who are willing to go in expecting their minds to be blown by a director at the top of his game, you will have little issue with *Inception*.

VERDICT: An original, epic and grandiose heist movie with lashings of intellect and action, *Inception* is a jaw-dropping piece of work by Chris Nolan. With the likes of Leonardo DiCaprio and Ellen Page offering superb performances, coupled with Nolan's spectacular script and direction, this is arguably the film to beat this year –-an instant classic.

Essential viewing.

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COFFEE

GENESIS 2 and Moving On are holding a coffee morning on Monday, July 26 from 10am-12noon at Barry Community Enterprise Centre, Skomer Road, Barry.

VILLAGE FESTIVAL

LLANFEST 2010 – Llangan and St Mary Hill Village Festival takes place at 1pm on Saturday, July 31, at Fferm Goch green.

Free entry, with live music from Lawrence Phillips, Under The Driftwood Tree, Orca, Urban Fire, Little Red Ambulance.

Children's rides, bouncy castle, clown, face painting, craft stalls, outdoor skittles.

Be Waterwise this summer

Doeth gyda dŵr dros yr haf

Help protect our water supplies

We've had the driest first half of the year for 80 years, and it's putting a strain on our water resources – despite the recent rainfall.

We're doing everything we can to look after your water supplies, and they should last - for normal use - until the autumn and the return of wet weather. But to be sure we need your help. Using water wisely will help to conserve supplies and benefit the environment.

Look how many baths full you could save*

In your home:

- Limit your shower to four minutes
  Save 161 a year
- Fit a 'Hippo' water saving bag in your toilet cistern
  Around 208 a year
- Don't let the tap run when cleaning teeth, shaving and washing your hands
  Around 18 a year

In your garden:

- Use a watering can or hand held hose instead of a sprinkler
  Around 15 each time
- Use a water butt to collect rainwater from your roof for your plants. Even in the summer it'll fill up quicker than you think
  Around 12 a year
- If you've a large above ground swimming pool, careful water quality management will reduce the need to repeatedly empty and refill it
  Around 11 each time

* estimated

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Byddwn yn gweithio'n galed i warchod eich cyflenwadau dŵr, a dylent bara - ar ddefnydd arferol - tan dywydd gwlyb yr hydref. Ond bydd angen eich help er mwyn sicrhau hynny. Bydd defnyddio dŵr yn ddoeth yn cynnal adnoddau dŵr a'r amgylchedd.

Gallech arbed sawl llond bath*

Yn eich cartref:

- Cawodydd hyd at bedair munud yn unig
  Arbed 161 y flwyddyn
- Gosod bag 'Hippo' yn sesiwn eich toilad
  Tua 208 y flwyddyn
- Osgoi rhedeg y tap wrth lanhau dannedd, eillio a golchi dwylo
  Tua 18 y flwyddyn

Yn eich gardd:

- Defnyddio can neu bibell law nid taenellwr i ddyfrio'r ardd
  Tua 15 bob tro
- Casglu dŵr glaw o'r to mewn casgen er mwyn dyfrio planhigion. Bydd yn llenwi'n gyflym, hyd yn oed yn yr haf
  Tua 12 y flwyddyn
- Yn achos pwll nofio mawr, bydd rheoli ansawdd y dŵr yn ofalus yn golygu gwacau ac ail-lenwi'n llai aml
  Tua 11 bob tro

* amcangyfrif

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Out and About with The GEM

MEMORABLE OCCASION

LEFT: Mayor of the Vale of Glamorgan, Coun Colin Osborne and his wife, the Mayoress, Ruby, were joined by Coun Tony Hampton (bottom left), Coun Janice Charles (bottom left), Shelagh Mayor (Race Equality First) and pupils from Ysgol Gwaun y Nant at the official opening of the Memorable Moments in our Lives exhibition at Art Central.

ART CENTRAL HOSTING PUPILS' EXHIBITION ON LIFETIME THEME

AN exhibition showcasing local primary school pupils' work on the theme of 'birth, marriage and death' has gone on show at the Vale Council's gallery, Art Central.

The exhibition, which ends this Saturday (July 24) features wall hangings, puppets and sculptures created by pupils from primary schools in the Vale and Cardiff that reflect the birth, marriage and death traditions of south Wales' diverse cultures.

Organised by the Race Equality First charity, the exhibition is the high point of its 'Memorable Moments in our Lives' project.

Children from years 5-6 have worked with artist Katrina Willis to learn how to use a variety of art forms, share information and explore how different cultures and traditions mark these significant events. The pupils have then transformed their ideas into pieces of art.

Notable works include depictions of Sikh, Christian and Jewish weddings, a Muslim birth ceremony and puppets of brides and grooms from a range of traditions, as well as sculptures of Egyptian mummies and recreations of soldiers from the Chinese Terracotta Army.

Primary schools that have participated include Barry Island, Cadoxton, Jenner Park, Oak Field and Ysgol Gwaun y Nant; as well as Kitchener, Mount Stuart, Severn and Willowbrook primary schools, in Cardiff.

Civic couple visit the Nell's Point watchers

The Mayor and Mayoress, with the two deputy managers, Clive Wilton and Terry Ewington.

ON a visit to the National Coastwatch Institution station at Nell's Point, Barry, the Mayor of Barry ,Coun Karl Kuhnell and Mayoress Mrs Meryl Kuhnell, observed a 'watch' in progress, which included a demonstration of equipment used by watchkeepers.

Both visitors said they were very impressed with the dedication of volunteers who, with the Maritime Coastguard Agency, keep watch on the coastline at this busy time of year. The recent good weather has seen an increase in incidents watchkeepers have been involved in.

Nell's Point will be holding its annual 'Open Day' this Sunday, July 25.

Sewing Circle's 80-metre bunting!

MEMBERS of the Sewing Circle held at the Linen Cupboard, in Penny Lane, Cowbridge, have offered their support to the town's forthcoming Food and Drink Festival, by cutting and stitching 80 metres of bunting.

Donations of fabric were received prior to the session and a team of keen sewers spent two hours creating the striking flags, which are to be used to highlight Festival activities over the weekend of October 30/31.

Helpers also discussed ways in which the wider community could help and later benefit from their efforts.

To reach our aim of 1km we need help from schools and other community groups. It is so easy to make and we are producing instruction sheets for any interested parties. But also we need lots of fabric – old sheets, clothes, uniforms, curtains, plain or patterned.

Younger kids could decorate the plainer fabric for us and textile groups could practice dying techniques.

The aim is that lengths will be used to highlight activity areas around Cowbridge and also could be used to direct people to the main site at AJ Car Park.

The festival is offering lengths of bias binding to the first 10 groups offering help and a competition will be run for the best 10m length. A separate competition for the best 10 decorated flags will run for groups aimed at under 10s.

The bunting is hoped to last for several years and will be made available to other local community events throughout the year, and should add an element of fun to the signage and directions over the festival weekend.

A further session is planned for the sewing circle on September 21 at 10am to which all are welcome – regardless of sewing experience!

If you would like an information sheet, length of binding or some bunting over the festival weekend, please visit The Linen Cupboard or email: info@cowbridge-foodanddrink.org

POLLY WILSON
(Festival organiser)

PLANT SALE

THERE will be a plant sale on Saturday, July 24 in Cowbridge Lesser Town Hall at 10am-12.30pm.

Free entry to all. Interesting and unusual plants grown by members and with specialist nurseries. Teas, coffees and homemade cakes.

Proceeds in aid of the Hardy Plants Society's south Wales group.

PACT meetings

TWYN-YR-ODYN *Coffee and Chat meeting will be held at The Horse & Jockey Public House on Tuesday, July 27 at 10.30am.*

YSTRADOWEN *Coffee and Chat meeting, The White Lion public house on August 3 at 11.30am.*

ST BRIDES PACT *public meeting, St Brides Church Hall on August 4 at 6pm.*

LLANDOUGH PACT *public meeting, Llandough Memorial Hall on July 26 at 7pm.*

ST AUGUSTINE'S PACT *public meeting, Windsor public house on July 27 at 7pm.*

LLANCARFAN VILLAGE SHOW
Saturday August 21, 2010
Stall holders space available
Show schedule now available
Details and entry form from:
Show Secretary 01446 781350 or 781337; Sam Smith Travel, Cowbridge; Baddeleys, 98 High Street, Barry.

Follow open gardens trail!

THE annual charity open gardens trail takes place in Penarth this Saturday, July 24 and Sunday, July 25

A spokeswoman said: "We have 11 gardens to view, with eight of those open on the Sunday, A rover ticket (to all gardens) costs £4, and children are free."

Opening times are: *Saturday, 10am-6pm, and Sunday 2pm-5pm*

Taking part are: *68, Redlands Road; 77 Coleridge Avenue; Waltham House, Bradford Place; 82,Plymouth Road (plants for sale); 135 Plymouth Road; 5,Stanton Way; 1, Cosmeston Cottages,Lavernock Road; 118 Lavernock Road (plants for sale); 133 Westbourne Road; 123 Westbourne Road; Sully Terrace private allotments between 63-65 Westbourne Road; 16 St Peters Road,Penarth (Sunday only).*

It should be noted that four gardens, Waltham House; 82, Plymouth Road; 123, Westbourne Road and the allotments, are open only on Saturday.

At No. 4 Tudor Close, Westbourne Road, there will be tea and coffee, with a homemade cake, and a preserves stall with homegrown produce and plants.

At No 77 Coleridge Avenue, there will be an art exhibition.

All cash raised goes to The Children's Society.

Talk on shipwrecks

THE Rhoose and District History Society meets at the community hall on Friday, July 30 at 7.30pm.

Maritime historian, Alan Thorne, will give a talk on 'Shipwrecks of the Bristol Channel', covering steam ships, pilot cutters, trows, troop ships, barques and full rigged ships.

Entrance will be free to those who have already joined the society. Visitors are welcome and will be charged £1 for adults and 50p for under-16s.

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NEWS UPDATE FROM THE LIONS CLUB OF BRIDGEND

New president has a busy start to his year in office

RIGHT: President Phillip Davies (on left) is congratulated by outgoing president Godfrey Morris.

IT'S been a hectic start for Bridgend Lions' new top man, Phillip Davies.

Newly-retired, he lives in Southerndown and with partner Jean, was inducted as the club's president. He has started his year with a clarion call for the club to help more local causes by increasing its fundraising activities.

Phillip went out on the road to check up on the club's progress.

In his first week, he visited fetes at Laleston Primary School and Coety Village Association, where he was impressed with the popularity of games and prizes offered by the Lions' stalls.

He followed this by serving for two days on the club's stalls at the Bridgend Show.

In between, he took the time to drop in on Pen-y-Bont Gateway's awards night.

The Bridgend club for people with learning difficulties was the top fundraising team in Bridgend Lions annual charity swim gala for the 10th year running.

Phillip presented certificates and plaques to the team and a commemorative shield to organiser, Howard John.

He congratulated Gateway on their unique achievement and praised one member in particular, David Garrod, who has been their own top fundraiser for some years.

Myths and truths?

PORTHCAWL Townswomen's Guild had a good attendance at its July meeting, despite unsettled weather.

Mr Alan Thorne educated members on myths and myth-makers, which raised a lot of laughs and they came away not knowing what was myth and what was truth!

The next meeting, which will be a harvest tea with entertainment, is on September 8 at All Saints Church Hall at 2pm, to which all would be made very welcome.

FR

O'Neill's launch exciting live music contest

O'NEILL'S Bridgend is calling on local bands to sign up to a new live music initiative that could result in the chance to play at O'Neill's music venues across the UK – and win a prize of £2,000 worth of music equipment.

Bands interested in playing at O'Neill's – in their local pub, or other pubs across the UK – should register at *www.oneills.co.uk/bandregistration*.

Once registered, the information provided forms a band profile that enables O'Neill's managers to review, rate and approve that band. Those successful then go on to the O'Neill's national music roster, the O'Neill's Playlist.

The Playlist – launched last month – is part of O'Neill's continued commitment to live music and not only gives bands a chance to promote themselves to all 62 O'Neill's managers but also, if interested, the chance to be put forward for a series of regional showcases with a final prize of £2,000 of music equipment courtesy of leading UK distributors Rosetti.

"O'Neill's is passionate about live music and, whether you're looking for your first ever gig, or for regular bookings at a credible music pub, registering to get on the O'Neill's Playlist provides you with a chance to make your band visible to both decision makers in the pubs and, if successful, to the general public," explains Sarah Taylor, senior marketing manager at O'Neill's.

Fiona Corkery, manager of O'Neill's Bridgend, adds: "We're looking for a broad range of musicians – from cover bands to one-man bands to guitarists and fiddle players.

"I know there are some fantastic acts in and around south Wales, so I urge local bands to sign up and be part of this great initiative."

For your chance to get on the O'Neill's Playlist, register your details now at www.oneills.co.uk/bandregistration.

Everyone looking forward to 80th birthday party!

MERTHYR MAWR WI NEWS

PRESIDENT Margaret Batten welcomed members to the July meeting and introduced the speaker for the evening – Sheila Lowe, who described her work for the tourist board as a guide at the Boat House in Laugharne.

She talked about Dylan Thomas's life, his time with Caitlin and his writings. Her excellent and fascinating talk was illustrated with readings from some of his works, most notably *Under Milk Wood*.

Pat McHugh thanked the speaker.

Last month, several members attended the link meeting hosted by Colwinston WI. They enjoyed a quiz and a novel form of 'pass the parcel'.

The next link meeting will be in October when the host institute will be Penllyn.

We were lucky to have very good weather for our visit to the Wetlands at Machynys. It was a good day to walk around and enjoy the wild life, and was followed by lunch at Machynys Golf Club.

The next meeting will be on August 4 at Ewenny Community Hall, when members will hold the summer dinner to celebrate Merthyr Mawr WI's 80th birthday. **FC**

'IT'S A KNOCKOUT!'

FRIENDS and work mates are being urged to pit skills and wits against others to be crowned Ty Hafan's first-ever 'It's a Knockout' champion on August 21, at the Vale Hotel Resort.

Entry cost is £100 per team of 10, and each team must raise at least £1,000 in sponsorship for Ty Hafan.

For more information, contact the events teams on 029 2067 2060 or download the info and entry form at http://tyhafan.org/get-involved/our-events/august-2010/its-a-knockout

Lions' donations

MORE than £10,000 has been donated this year by Porthcawl Lions to various charities and organisations.

The recently-elected president Ralph Anslow said: "We aim to assist charities and other groups in the community but also national and international charities."

Donations include: *Help for Heroes, Porthcawl Stroke Club, Macmillan Cancer Support, British Heart Foundation and relief finance for national and international disasters.*

All money raised by the club supports these organisations.

The fundraisisng continues with a major book sale at the Seabank Hotel this Saturday and Sunday, July 24 –25. Doors open at 10am and admission is free.

A spokesman commented."The club is always pleased to welcome new members, so if you are interested, why not drop in and, while buying a book, chat to members who will be pleased to answer all your queries regarding Porthcawl Lions Club."

Porthcawl police probe day of thefts in the town

POLICE are investigating several incidents in Porthcawl last week.

On July 15, a burglary occurred at around 6.45pm at the Sandpiper Inn, when a white man in his late 20s stole cash from the kitchen.

He is described as being of medium build and about five feet five inches tall. He wore blue jeans with a blue-grey jumper.

He left the property with a second man and ran out of the pub in the direction of the subway along Station Hill.

The other man is described as white, in his late 20s, of skinny build, about five feet eight inches tall and wore a cream jacket.

Another robbery occurred on Woodland Avenue in Porthcawl, opposite the junction with Parc Y Berllan, the same day at around 7.40pm.

An 18-year-old woman was waiting at a bus stop when she was approached by three white men, who stole the contents of her purse.

One was said to be a white male about five feet six inches tall and of medium build. He was in his 30s to early 40s with dark brown wavy hair down to just below his ears. He was wearing a blue short sleeved polo shirt and black shoes. Another man was about six feet tall and in his 30s. He was quite stocky and possibly with a shaven head and stubble. He was wearing a blue baseball cap and a grey hooded top, a pair of dark blue 'adidas' tracksuit bottoms and white trainers.

The third man was about five feet eight inches tall and in his mid 20s. He was of skinny build with a very drawn face.

He had scruffy sandy-coloured hair, was wearing a grey hooded top with the hood up and had a white T-shirt with a small logo on the left of the chest underneath his top.

A third incident under investigation by detectives is an armed robbery at Ladbrokes betting office, New Road, at 8.20pm on the same evening.

A white man entered the betting office carrying a black-handled kitchen knife and a dark coloured holdall.

He threatened the two staff, entered the staff area behind the counter and removed several hundred pounds, before leaving the store.

He was described as white, between five feet seven inches to six feet tall. He was of skinny to medium build and aged between 20 to 30.

He was wearing a black hooded top, with a grey hooded top with its hood up underneath. He was also wearing either a woollen hat or balaclava underneath the grey hooded top which may have been covering his face as he entered the store. He was wearing a dark pair of jogging bottoms and dark footwear.

The knife was described as a black-handled kitchen knife, with a silver-coloured blade about eight to ten inches long.

The holdall was dark coloured with a lighter colour around the zip area or piping on the upper of the bag. The handles were a different material to the bag.

Detective Sergeant Steve Gardner of Bridgend CID said: "These are three extremely serious incidents and we are doing all we can to bring the culprits to justice.

"We are appealing for any witnesses or information with regard to these three incidents which occurred on the same evening in Porthcawl."

Anyone with information regarding these crimes, is asked to contact Detective Sergeant Steve Gardner at Bridgend CID on 01656 679518 or anonymously via Crimestoppers on 0800 555 111.

Members' insight into Japanese cultural nuances

MYNYDD CYNFFIG WI NEWS

THE July meeting was held at the Pisgah Chapel vestry, Kenfig Hill, on July 13, when Mrs Pritchard from Ogmore Vale, gave an in-depth description of Japanese customs, including dress, courtesy, food and education.

Members really enjoyed seeing Mrs Pat Jones being dressed in a kimono and obi, the wide sash that is traditionally worn around the waist – she looked stunning!

After demonstrating the paper craft origami, which is mainly used for ceremonial occasions, Mrs Pritchard presented each member with an example of a beautifully-made bird.

On August 17, an outing has been arranged to Carmarthen for lunch and shopping, followed by a visit to the gardens at Aberglasney.

The next meeting will be held on September 14, when the speaker, Mr Chris Roberts, will describe the work of the Air Wales Ambulance.

MG

BLOOD DONORS

THE Welsh Blood Service is holding local sessions next month as follows:

Memorial Hall, Bryncoch, Bryncethin: Friday, August 6, 10am-6pm.

Brackla Community Centre, The Triangle, Brackla: Friday, August 27, 10am-6pm.

Old Pioneers Hall, Beryl Road, Barry, Tuesday: August 10, 10am-12.30pm and 2pm-6pm.

Llantwit Major Youth Centre, Station Road: Tuesday, August 24, 10am-6pm; Wednesday, August 25, 10am-6pm.

If donors miss their regular session, telephone 0800 252266, or visit web page www.welshblood.org.uk to find an alternative location.

Who wants to build what and where?

Mr A Vizcaino – **1 Eleanor Close, Pencoed** – retrospective application for trimming of Norway maple in rear garden.

Mr R Griffiths – **Lan Farm, Cefn Carfan Road, Bryncethin, Bridgend** – agricultural machinery store.

Sidoli Brothers Ltd – **Piccolo Bar (No 1 kiosk), Promenade, Porthcawl** – extension to form covered external eastern terrace and glazed enclosed western terrace and storage pod.

Mrs C Cooper – **10 Bryn Derlwyn, Broadlands, Bridgend** – rear single storey extension and enlarging existing garage (detached).

Mr J Knight – **Primrose Cottage, 1 Clarkes Row, Porthcawl** – alter sloping roof of west side of house to pitched roof.

John Arkwright & Co – **land at Cefn Glas Road, Bridgend** – removal of condition 22 of P/05/444/FUL relating to traffic speed reduction and pedestrian safety.

Mrs S Evans – **Pontycymmer Nursery School, Victoria Street, Pontycymmer, Bridgend** – siting of birchwood anti-vandal accom unit – to be used as add space – classroom/staff room/comm room.

Mr P Dodge – **Dyffryn Erw, Heol Llwynffynon, Llangeinor, Bridgend** – engineering works to garden area, renewal of boundary retaining wall, new retaining walls for terraced garden.

Mr and Mrs J Evans – **30 Heol Groes Faen, Nottage, Porthcawl** – flat roof extension at rear to provide additional bedroom and en-suite, enclose passageway to form porch/utility room.

LMBC Ltd – **Riversdale House, Merthyr Mawr Road, Bridgend** – replace boundary wall, improve access to car park, install automatic bollards to car park and improve car park layout.

Mr L Shillibier – **Hendir Uchaf Farm, Wern Tarw, Pencoed** – private stables, garages and menage (sole use by home and family) affecting footpath 5 Coychurch Higher.

JP Property Maintenance – **land off New Street, Pantygog, Pontycymmer, Bridgend** – one four-bedroom detached dwelling at plot 1.

Bridgend CBC – **Litchard Infant/Primary School, Heol y Groes, Litchard, Bridgend** – five classroom/administration block link extension.

Ms Sarah George – **8 West Park Drive, Nottage, Porthcawl** – dormer extension.

Mr A Thomas – **5 The Croft, Sarn, Bridgend** – detached dwelling.

Mr H McDermott – **5 Westgate Close, Porthcawl** – two new dormers to front and rear of property with additional new window for bathroom on side of property.

Mark A Jones – **11 South View, Pencoed** – dividing fence between adjoining property fence being 500mm above wall.

BCBC Parks and Playing Fields – **Cornelly Sports Pavilion, Meadow Street, North Cornelly** – single storey extension to accommodate plant and electric switch gear.

Mole Valley Farmers Limited – **unit off Main Avenue, Brackla Industrial Estate, Bridgend** – fascia signs, ground mounted pole flats, double-sided monoliths, post signs and opening hours panels.

Pontycymmer Bowls Club – **Pontycymmer Bowls Pavilion, Gwaunbant, Pontycymmer, Bridgend** – erection of temporary building to eastern end of bowls pavilion (7.0m x 2.2m x 3m) to provide changing room (five-year period).

PORTHCAWL STUDENTS STRUT THEIR STUFF ON THE CATWALK

PUPILS at Porthcawl Comprehensive School took to the catwalk recently to persuade people to abandon the throwaway clothes culture.

The event took place in the Jubilee Theatre, Porthcawl Comprehensive, and the aim was to raise money for the local charity Sustainable Wales, while highlighting ways to refresh wardrobes – refashioning and swapping clothes to save the planet.

The organiser, India Bundock, said: "The idea was to model clothes which were restyled and brought up-to-date."

The event began with an address by Margaret Minhinnick, of Sustainable Wales, where she railed against stores that sold cheap, disposable clothes – arguing that making cotton used up too much of the world's resources – especially water.

She argued that people should keep clothes longer, wear them more often, and be prepared to swap or update garments, rather than throwing them out and replacing them.

After the Minhinnick message, there were two songs from a local girl, Charlotte Skidmore, who this year won the 'Bridgend County Young Singer of the Year' title – a classical singing competition.

However, she demonstrated her versatility by singing a pop number, 'Never Forget You' by the Noisettes, and a blues, 'Crazy For You' by Adele.

Charlotte is off to study classical singing in London, but she was completely at ease and in control singing in two different styles!

Then it was time for the compere, Cristina Al-Mokhtar, who introduced the models, and they strutted their stuff – some with total confidence and some with a degree of nervousness.

The second half of the show was compered by Richard Lewis, the manager of SUSSED in John Street, which specialises in ethically sourced and Fairtrade goods.

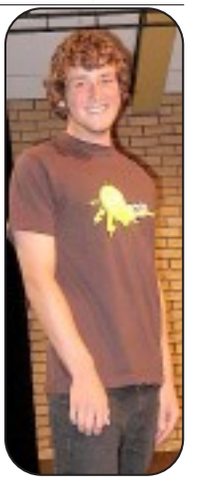
The models wore clothes currently on sale in SUSSED.

Margaret Minhinnick added: "As the lifespan of garments has shrunk, nearly 1.2m tonnes of clothing ends up in UK landfills every year and 100m pairs of shoes are chucked away annually.

"This event was eco – fabulous, recycling at its best.

"In a recession-hit world, these sixth formers are suggesting the new cool is to SWAP, NOT SHOP."

ABOVE: Charlotte Skidmore.



ABOVE: Compere Cristina Al-Mokhtar,

OUR MUSEUMS:

A source of revenue – or foundation of civilisation for young?

PEOPLE who share my perception, see museums as the repositories of the heritage of mankind, the inheritance of all our children.

Museums should be an inspiration to children and adults alike, to make greater knowledge interesting and available, and explain the past on which we shall build a better tomorrow.

They are the foundation of our civilisation, and all of us, our nation, benefit from every visit to a museum by any family in the land.

The government of Mrs Thatcher saw museums as a source of revenue, charging each family to visit their inheritance; but Labour made entrance to museums free – as it always had been – to encourage children towards more knowledge and a pride in the achievements of all mankind, and of Wales. You could scarcely find a larger gulf of understanding between two political parties, of what civilisation stands for.

Many of 'Thatcher's children' are parents themselves now, who may take their children to Tesco or to a football match, yet do not recognise any parental duty to take children to the local museum.

Presumably, 50 per cent of Glamorgan parents who never take their children to the national museum in Cardiff will be quite indifferent when Mr Cameron re-introduces museum charges, declaring: "There is no alternative."

So another generation will be condemned to mindless, anti-social ignorance – who resent the wonder and delight of learning, and the desire to know, which is inherent in all children – provided that it is encouraged.

Beyond the realms of politics completely, this huge distinction of perception divides our society into two viewpoints: that a museum represents the best of what we are, civilised thoughtful people – or that market forces tell us it is another way to get money out of suckers, and prevent poor children and their families ever reaching their potential – and they may well be the ones who need museums most.

This is chutzpah on a monumental scale, that Conservatives create ignorance in children, because of their worship of market forces, and then condemn the consequences of their own financial policies, in the wasted lives of a new generation.

Charges for museums have not yet returned, but would anyone wish to lay bets on it?

Neville Westerman, Brynna

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Your LOCAL BUSINESS Spotlight...

ADVERTISEMENT FEATURE

LOCAL SHOPPING IS THE KEY ELEMENT IN ANY VIBRANT LOCAL ECONOMY

HERE at The GEM, our circulation area spreads over a wide range of communities – from the urban, to the rural, and on to the coastal.

However, one thing that all these varied towns and villages have in common is the need for a strong local shopping base – a nucleus that can hold a community together.

That is why, in this age of internet shopping and identikit superstores, it is so important that shoppers give their local stores a chance.

We are all familiar with supermarket sale tactics. Certain brands of wine are on offer at 50 per cent off (usually £7.99 down to £3.99) and this happens so often that it is only on February 29 that you will find it at the full price.

Similarly, *Which* magazine recently took a number of big stores to task for hiking prices on certain items for a few weeks when demand was expected to be low – all so that they could then claim to be making big reductions!

It is not a tactic that pays when you are dealing with a local shopkeeper who has a regular client base.

You can fool all of the people some of the time etc, as the saying goes – but you can't fool your regulars!

To test this theory, The GEM took time to wander around a local town and look at the summer sales.

We found genuine reductions in many of the shops, all driven by the approaching new season, and by the need to find room for fresh stocks that will be arriving in the next month or two.

In fact, one thing that was brought home to me as I visited different shops was the huge choice that independent retailers have to offer.

From ladies' fashions to jewellery, to handbags and then on to furnishings, shoes, hardware items and food, the local trader who is part of his or her community can so often offer a wide choice and a good deal.

It all goes to make local shopping a wise move – and socially responsible too!

PHILIP IRWIN

LEFT: ***These shoes are a gorgeous look for all seasons and are available from Jon Ian.***

Joys of local shopping – by a surprised resident!

THE world is changing – local businesses in and around the Vale are busily adapting to serve a new wave of cost conscious, sharp shoppers. There is no doubt that even customers who have spending power are not prepared to waste money or spend more than is necessary in such uncertain times.

What has become apparent recently is how local independent businesses are modifying their stock to suit a more discerning buyer who still loves 'a great buy'.

Some shops in the Vale of Glamorgan have been labelled in the past as being too expensive for some of the local residents to buy the less essential things in life.

These residents would normally head to the national retail parks, lured in by constant advertising messages that the big brands can afford to bombard us with.

Having recently been tasked with buying a new handbag for a gift (and with out sounding mean), not wanting to spend more than £50...I, too, thought about heading to a typical national fashion chain that sells a great choice and massive volumes; but when it comes to buying something a little 'different' that's where the struggle begins – everyone's got the same!

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 13)

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Your LOCAL BUSINESS Spotlight...

ADVERTISEMENT FEATURE

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 12)

So while taking a stroll through Cowbridge High Street one afternoon, I noticed some very attractive handbags in shops I never even knew sold handbags!

I was pleasantly surprised to see on closer inspection just how reasonably priced they were. At the £40 – £50 range, you feel quite justified in buying a couple each season and recycling them to charity when it's time for a change.

Perhaps, the hardest thing for local businesses to overcome is perception to others, YES the Vale and surrounding areas do cater for the more affluent customers, but take a closer look inside these businesses and the reality is that they are adapting to current times.

The stock is still very individual compared with the multi nationals.

The whole shopping experience is more pleasant, bumping into friends and people you haven't seen for ages, stopping for an ice-cream and watching the kids having fun in the park.

Local businesses know they have to change to survive and there is no greater motivation for surviving when you have invested your heart, soul and hard cash into your livelihood.

So next time you're about to head off to the city, take a really close look at what is probably available within walking distance and with the money saved on fuel and car parking, you can buy a little treat for yourself instead, and you'll be doing your bit to support the people who make our local towns the special places they are to live.

Above: Designer jeans from Blushbaby and below; pretty summer dresses from Havana, both Cowbridge.

Above: necklace from Ushi Below: Dress from L'amoire. both Cowbridge.

ABOVE: This beautiful dress is available from Cowbridge's Eye Candy Boutique.

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Many happy returns...

We're Wild about Beads Are you?

'Wild about Beads' gives people the chance to get creative with jewellery

'The future is bright, the future is beads!' – that's the declaration of a family business in Bridgend which has the most dazzling array of beads you are ever likely to see, and gives people the opportunity to create their own jewellery.

The wife and husband team of Caroline and Chris Heyns are celebrating the first birthday of Wild about Beads which is located on Ewenny Road, and in the words of Caroline the last couple of years have been "an amazing journey".

Caroline and Chris, who have a 16-year-old daughter Robyn, arrived in south Wales from South Africa to start a new life in 2007.

Caroline explained: "We worked for a company in Llandow – and worked well together. When the company decided to relocate we didn't want to leave the area because we'd grown to love Wales.

"We couldn't nail down what sort of a business we wanted to do – we thought about a coffee shop – and then I suddenly thought why not open a beads shop as it is my passion."

What Caroline and Chris have created is an Alladin's cave of beads with every colour and shade, every shape and size under the sun!

"Before we opened, we did our research and built up contacts visiting other parts of the UK, and going to North America and South Africa."

In fact, Caroline's passion for making jewellery was inspired in Cape Town. "I was working in sales and marketing, and Chris was working in retail at the time. I used to go for walks in the bohemian quarter of the city where there are the most amazing bead shops.

"Going in there was overwhelming – it's an emotion people have when they come in here."

People are able to make up their own jewellery design – necklaces, bracelets, rings, charms, customised accessories – with the couple's friendly advice.

Caroline explained that the beauty of the shop is the "tactile experience" and the fact that unlike internet orders, people can check out what they are ordering before they pay and leave.

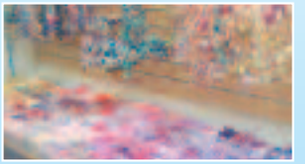
The couple's clientele is broad, from youngsters transfixed by the look and feel of the beads to trendy teenagers and men and women anxious to create a gift that's original.

The shop opens from Monday to Saturday, and also books jewellery parties in the evenings.

"We've held parties for children, and women's groups like WIs and hen parties who want to do something a bit different."

As the couple celebrate the shop's first birthday this week, Caroline says expansion will follow.

"In the future I'd like bigger premises, maybe a play area and coffee shop. The future is bright, the future is beads!"



This week's BIRTHDAY SPECIALS (ends Saturday 24th July)
25% off all Jewellery and up to 20% off all Beads and Accessories

11b Ewenny Road, BRIDGEND CF31 3HN (Opposite Spar)
TEL: 01656 667317 www.wildaboutbeads.co.uk

BRYNTEG SCHOOL PUPILS SHOWCASE THEIR TALENT AND FLAIR AT CHARITY FASHION SHOW

A CELEBRATION of creative design and fashion, produced by Brynteg Comprehensive pupils, showcased their talent and flair at a show which raised money for South Africa charites.

The evening included a fashion show of clothes produced by designers and manufacturers at the school. Hats by year-9 pupils, corsets by GCSE students, dresses by sixth-formers and special garments made from recyclable materials were all on show. The models were all pupils, too!

Design and technology work was exhibited at the event, showing how are able the young pupils are!

The audience were wowed with musical performances from Gemma Thomas, Emily March, Ryan March and Brynteg's latest bands.

Funds raised will be taken to the Goedgedacht Farm in South Africa by pupils and staff at the school. Brynteg has established a strong link with the farm over many years; improving the lifestyle of the children dramatically.

The children at the farm are brought up in unstable families with parents who suffer from alcohol-related issues and abuse.

Money raised at this event and others will be used to improve the children's living conditions, everyday life and to create new experiences.

To make a donation to Goedgedacht Trust or to purchase a video of the fashion show, contact the school on: 01656 641800.

Thank you from the South Africa Team!
(Report by Victoria Floyd-Ellis and Emma Wictome).

Photographs by MANDY THOMAS
(Available for purchase, telephone 07974 518347)
These and other pictures of the event can be viewed on
www.mandythomasphotography.co.uk

ABOVE: The dresses on show were all designed and made by Brynteg students.

'BEWARE OF SCAMS' – warn Bridgend council

SCAMS involving fake invoices which could end up costing local businesses thousands of pounds are being reported to Bridgend County Borough Council (BCBC).

The authority's Trading Standards department has received a number of complaints involving a scam that targets mainly small businesses in the borough, a spokesman reports.

Some businesses are receiving phone calls from so-called advertising agencies requesting payment for a service which the businesses previously knew nothing about. This might involve advertising in a magazine, brochure or on a website.

Some local businesses are being asked to pay up to £1,500, and are being provided with invoices which the scammers claim are evidence of an agreement.

The council's deputy leader Coun David Sage, whose cabinet portfolio includes trading standards, said local businesses need to be mindful of this type of scam.

"Small businesses are often targeted in this way by extremely aggressive sales techniques which may involve the threat of legal action if payment is not made.

"We know how busy many businesses are from day to day and some decide to simply pay, rather than have to deal with endless calls and letters.

"We strongly advise businesses to request a copy of any contract in writing, and if there's any doubt about the validity of the agreement, then to contact us for further advice."

He added: "This type of activity can really affect local businesses financially. We also know that by responding to these scams, you are more likely to be targeted again in future."

For further advice, or if you've experienced this type of scam and wish to report it, contact Trading Standards' business advice line on 01656 643478.

LEFT:
The school's geography department are pictured on their recent trip to Sorrento, Italy, where they experienced beautiful weather and exotic beaches!

News in and out of classroom at PENCOED COMPREHENSIVE SCHOOL – *plus an end of term report*

THE geography department at Pencoed Comprehensive School recently visited Sorrento in Italy.

They had an action-packed tour of the area, including a guided tour of the ruins of Herculaneum, an ascent of Mount Vesuvius, a trip along the stunning, rugged cliffs of the Amalfie Coast and a hydrofoil crossing to the idyllic Island of Capri (which included a coastline boat tour).

Pupils (and non-geography) teaching staff learnt lots about the restless nature of this European tectonic area.

During their time abroad, they have begun to appreciate what it is like to live in Southern Italy in the shadow of the mighty Vesuvius.

Of course, pupils and staff also had to put up with beautiful weather, clear seas and exotic beaches – but, it was all worth it in the name of geography.

Mr Pownall would like to thank all the staff and pupils who made the trip such a success.

Another set of pupils have also just returned from a visit to Eurodisney in Paris. This visit was organised by Mr Green, Leader of Learning -ICT.

Pupils were given the opportunity of learning first hand about the practical applications of ICT in the Disney organisation – while enjoying some of the visitor attractions as well, of course!

Members of the school's senior rugby squad will be travelling to South Africa in August. During that time they will play three matches and will also see South Africa play Australia in the Tri Nations Championship.

A wonderful rugby and cultural experience organised by Mr Poley from the school's PE Department.

During the first full week of July, the school hosted a visit from Waldsassen. More than 20 pupils and staff enjoyed a variety of activities that had been co-ordinated by Mr Trew of the modern foreign languages department.

Activities included visits to the Big Pit and Rhondda Heritage Park, Oakwood, Swansea, a barbecue in school and a visit to the beach in Porthcawl. The latter proved a big hit as a visit to the seaside was a rare experience for a number of our guests.

Thank you very much to everyone involved in making the visit such a success, especially those families who hosted pupils and staff from Waldsassen.

On a local level, a number of our pupils went on Duke of Edinburgh Expeditions recently. Twenty-seven of our year-12 pupils took part in a three-day silver expedition to the Gower and 43 of our year-10 pupils spent two days on a bronze expedition in the Vale.

Well done all of those who took part – including the staff, who were just as tired as the pupils at the end of the expeditions.

The expeditions were led by Mr T Roberts, non formal learning co-ordinator at the school. Thankfully, the weather on the Gower wasn't as extreme as last year!

Congratulations to all of those pupils whose contributions to school life and attendance records were celebrated in the years 7 and 8 achievement ceremonies.

Well done also to the year-12 pupils who recently organised a number of activities in school (including the strawberry tea party) and with the local primaries to raise money for Cancer Research.

They raised an amazing total of more than £2,000. Thank you to everyone for their support.

Sixth formers and year-11 pupils also arranged successful prom evenings recently which were enjoyed by pupils and staff alike.

Our ECO champions were busy at the end of term delivering recycling bins throughout the school. These bins were purchased from the £5,000 grant received in May.

There's no excuse now for pupils or staff not to recycle from September.

SPORTS NEWS

Congratulations to all those who took part in the school's sports day. Owain House was the winner on that day. The overall house winner for the year is Gwenllian.

Since June, a number of our pupils have taken part in various sporting competitions, including the 5 x 60 youth games held at the Bridgend Recreation Centre.

During the SONY youth games in July, our girls' football team won the gold medal, with the boys' rugby and football teams winning bronze.

Year-7 pupils took part in the Colts Glamorgan Valleys championships in Aberdare, with Lewis Butler coming first in the 100m.

During the NAS/UWT Athletics championships, our years 7-10 pupils achieved a number of 1st, 2nd and 3rd places with Lewis Butler setting a new school record for the 300m.

Other record breakers were Daniel Heskith in the long jump and Jon Barnett in the 300m. Daniel was also recently awarded a Welsh cap in soccer through the Boys Club of Wales.

During the athletics junior championships in early June, Zak Morgan broke the school record in the javelin event.

Well done to everyone who competed at all these events and to the PE Department for their dedication.

STAFF NEWS

It's time to bid farewell to a number of staff leaving us at the end of this term.

Best wishes to Jane Harding and Mary Jeffreys who'll be retiring after more than 20 years' service each to the school.

Sadly missed also will be Nicola Smart who will be joining Olchfa School in Swansea as head of MFL, Chris Mitchell (history) who will be joining Maesteg Comprehensive School, and Laura Morgan (RE) who will be going to Porthcawl Comprehensive.

Best wishes also go to Jonathan Phillips (geography) and Alexis Jones (ICT and Media) for their future employment.

In September, we will be welcoming Nicholas Brain who will be joining us as deputy head following the appointment of David George as headteacher earlier this year.

Also joining us will be Kay Smith as the director of learning - drama, Kay Jones, director of learning - Spanish, Bethan Pristavec as deputy director - technology, and Sharon Davies, teacher of geography and history.

Returning to the school's teaching staff after special leave and sabbaticals will be Kate Drakeford (ICT), Helen Gwynne-Kinsey (RE), and Beth Roberts (media studies). Recently appointed support staff are Christine Bowen as receptionist and Karen Andrews as administrative assistant.

COMMUNITY NEWS

Please note that there won't be a PTA car boot sale in school in August.

The next one will be held on Sunday morning, September 5. Please come along to sell or to buy, as the funds raised by the PTA are used to purchase resources for the pupils.

Thank you to the PTA members for organising the car boot sales and their other fundraising activities throughout the year.

The senior citizens lunches start back on Tuesday, September 7. Lunches are held in the school during term time at 12pm every Tuesday and Thursday.

If you haven't attended these lunches before, please just come along to reception. Our sixth formers and canteen staff will be ready to welcome you.

From mid-September, Pencoed Comprehensive School will be offering after school childcare activities for children aged between 9-14 years old.

These activities, supported by the Welsh Assembly Government Community Focused School Childcare Grant, will be led by qualified leaders and tutors from the Llanharan Drop In centre.

Provision will be provided initially for two evenings a week during term time, from 3.30pm-5.30pm but this could increase to five nights a week if there is sufficient demand.

Further information will be distributed to pupils in the comprehensive and local primary schools during early September.

LOOKING AHEAD

We look forward to seeing pupils on the external examinations results days – A & AS level on Thursday, August 19 and GCSE level on Tuesday, August 24.

A special welcome to new year-7 pupils who'll be joining us in September.

Pupils from the cluster school spent two days in the school recently familiarising themselves with the school site, staff and routines. Hopefully, any concerns they may have about going to the 'big school' will have been allayed by this visit and a special newsletter prepared for them by members of the English department's creative writing group.

Next term, staff return to school on Thursday, September 2. Pupils from years 7, 10 and 12 return on Friday, September 3 for induction, with all attending on Monday, September 6.

The Athletic under-14s celebrate good season

BRIDGEND Athletic under-14s recently held their annual presentation evening at the Caeffatri Inn in Bridgend to celebrate another successful season.

In total they played 26 games and won 19, drew one and lost six.

They scored a total of 604 points with 326 against, while top try scorer was flanker Josh Evans with 21 tries.

Top point scorer was also Josh Evans, with 105 points.

The individual awards were all very close. Player of the year went to flanker Grant Richards, while players' player of the year was awarded to prop Zac Evans, who also scooped the most improved player of the year.

Clubman of the year was won by second row Ben Harries, and all players were congratulated on a fantastic season,with players and coaches now looking forward to the under-15s.

If anyone you know is interested in playing rugby, then Bridgend Athletic under-15s have started training for next season on Thursdays at Newbridge Fields, Bridgend from 6pm to 7.30pm.

Please feel free to come along to training to try out for the squad, or alternatively contact Ian on 07880 788008 or Stuart on 07779 727881 for more information.

IG

Pencoed RFC tournament

PENCOED Youth RFC hold a 12-team tournament on August 21 at their Woodlands Ground, kick-off at 11.30am.

The teams include Cefn Cribbwr, Nantymoel, Pontycymmer, Llantrisant, Barry, and Sully who will play in four pools of three.

Tea, coffee, ice cream, and hot food will be served on site throughout the tournament.

Come along and view the emerging youth talent from within, and outside your district. **TR**

The Crusaders' youngsters fall in 'fiery' clash

Catalan Dragons 37
Crusaders 30 (under 18s)

by Ian Golden at Stade Gilbert Brutus

IN the historic first competitive meeting between Catalans Dragons and Crusaders at under 18 level, the Dragons just came out on top 37-30 in a fiery encounter.

The two sides met last year in a friendly before the Super League encounter where the French were dominant, but this year's game was a lot closer and it was three tries in the space of ten minutes in the latter section of the second half that ensured a Dragons' victory.

Dragons capitalised after being awarded a penalty on the half-way line. They worked their way upfield leading to Hakim Miloudi setting up Yoann Laugaudin in the corner.

From kick-off, it was 10–0 after Théo Fages forced his way over and Thibaut Cordoba converted.

Crusaders hit back just after the quarter hour when Alex Webber set up Dan Godwin to dive over in the corner.

They levelled things on 25 minutes when, following a penalty, Rhys Watkins crashed over and Alex Webber converted.

A Gael Garreta drop goal from Catalans' next attack gave them the lead once again.

Crusaders went into the interval 16–11 ahead when Alex Webber kicked a 40–20 which led to a Crusaders' try from Mathew McGovern which Webber himself goaled.

Théo Fages knocked on from kick-off in the second half leading to a further Crusaders try – a carbon copy of their first – Alex Webber set up Godwin, but again the kick was missed.

Catalans were back on the board with a debatable try that looked to have been dropped while grounding.

And after kicking a 40–20, they regained the lead with Sofiane Bouchareb going over in the corner. Guasch converted both.

In this see-saw match, Crusaders regained the advantage after Godwin sprinted 50 metres down the wing to claim his hat-trick.

Catalans did get back on the board when Karim Madani intercepted a pass 20 metres out and ran unchallenged for the line. Guasch converted.

They sealed the game when Capdelaire went over twice in the space of five minutes before Crusaders had the final say with a Chris Davies try that still left them seven points adrift.

McGrath pays for hat trick

BLACKWOOD BULLDOGS	**34**
BRIDGEND BLUE BULLS	**50**

BRIDGEND Blue Bulls claimed their first win for three years over reigning champions Blackwood Bulldogs, and their first ever win at Glan-y-Afon Park with a 50-34 victory.

The Bulldogs got off to a great start with a score in the opening minute but the next eight minutes belonged to Chris McGrath, as the wing raced over for a superb hat-trick in record time.

Great play from Tylon Mafi and Matthew Hutchings sent him over for his first, then a Lindsey McCausland run resulted in his second, before a great cross field kick from Gareth David fell perfectly for McGrath, who touched down for a third with just nine minutes on the clock.

However, his celebrations were painful as the Bridgend Athletic union player chipped a bone in his leg while crossing and had to be carried off the field. David kicked a single goal.

Shaun Owens scored a great solo try before McCausland notched the Blue Bulls fifth, David converting both.

Hutchings and Dan Smith then piled more misery on the home team, both scoring with David adding a further goal but Blackwood had the final say scoring in the corner to make it 36-10 at the break.

The Bulldogs scored again early in the second half to make it 36-14 but Connor McDonald hit straight back to put Bridgend past 40.

A second score from Bryon Williams then made it 40-20 before a great solo score from Gareth Howells furthered the Blue Bulls lead.

Both sides had men red-carded, and in the final quarter hour Blackwood showed their skills with three good tries before Gareth David raced away to make the game safe and give his team a 50-34 win.

It's carnival time in Cornelly and everybody enjoys an afternoon of community activities

IT was a real community event in Cornelly last Saturday as the Cornelly Public Events Committee staged its carnival.

The carnival field was full with a wide range of traditional fun day enetertainment and activities.

There were dance and kick-boxing displays, and a wide range of stalls representing local groups and charities.

Jo, a volunteer with Cornelly Food Co-op, was busy taking orders all day.

ALL PHOTOGRAPHS by TREVOR OWEN
(*www.captured-moments-photography.co.uk*)
EXCEPT those marked 'GS' (by GEM staff).
Please note that photographs taken can be viewed and purchased at the Cornelly Public Events committee office, 31, Plas Marlas, North Cornelly, with all profits going to committee funds.

ABOVE: The Mayor of Bridgend County Borough, Coun Colin Teesdale, with his wife Gloria and Peter Watkins of the 'Golden Grove' charity, which raises funds so that injured members of the Armed Forces can receive tratment in Wales.

Maria (right) from Bridgend Reptile Centre was letting local children handle a real live snake.

COMMUNITY NEWS

TREOES, LLANGAN & ST MARY HILL

Your local correspondent is Nancy Davidge, "Tynewydd", Llangan. (01656) 860303

Charity golf

THE recent charity golf tournament organised by the Bridgend Rotary Club, raised the magnificent sum of £3,500.

This will be divided, with £1,750 being donated to the Sandville Centre, Porthcawl, and £1,750 going to the Noah's Ark Appeal.

Church visit

TO celebrate the bicentenary of the Rev David Jones, former rector of Llangan from 1768-1810, the Archbishop of Wales, Rev Barry Morgan, will be attending the church on Sunday, August 8, at 6.30pm.

As this is the second Sunday of the month, there will be no morning service at 11.15am.

On August 14, author Rev Brian Higham is giving a talk at 2.30pm in St Canna's, on the life and work of Rev David Jones.

Club closed

THE Young at Heart Club closed on July 15 for the summer recess and will re-open in the first week of September.

Reminder

COME along and enjoy Llangan and St Mary Hill village fete on Saturday, July 31, from 1pm.

For more information, telephone Rachael on 01656 864145.

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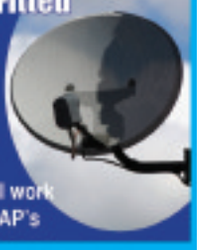
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Funeral Directors
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For your property and garden needs
• Fencing • Paths • Patios • Turfing
• Hedge, Shrub & Tree Trimming & Removal
• Lawns Laid & Cut • Gutter & Fascia Cleaning
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Complete Garden Services
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LAWNS.HEDGES.DECKING
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Specialists in Large/Dangerous Trees
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HIGHLY QUALIFIED/INSURED
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• Landscaping • Fencing
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• Garden Clearance
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WE ARE QUALIFIED, RELIABLE AND LOCAL!

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Guttering cleaned/replaced, UPVC Fascias & Soffits, Interior/Exterior Painting, Tiling, All General Home Improvements Undertaken
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All general plumbing work undertaken
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Tel: 07779 598844 or 01446 421006
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01446 794266

PAUL MARSHMAN
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Tiling • Electrical
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Quality Plastering Service
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- All aspects of plastering
- General Building Maintenance

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Qualified & experienced teacher offering tuition of English, French and Spanish to both children and adults (beginners up to A-Level).
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- Industrial clearance
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Same Day Rubbish Removals
All types of rubbish removed. Houses, Garages, Gardens cleared.
Prices start from only £10.
All areas covered.
FASTER & CHEAPER THAN SKIPS
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Luton van with tail lift
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- Deliveries
- House Clearance

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07968 056822
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Full Bathroom and Wetroom installation
Professional, Friendly & Reliable Service
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Excellent work standards and guaranteed reliability • Commercial and Domestic
ALL WORK GUARANTEED
Over 20 years experience, portfolio available. Free quotes.
Tel: 07827 462865

Call 01446 774484
Use The GEM
to promote your business

Situations Vacant

BARRY TOWN COUNCIL
CYNGOR TREF Y BARRI

Barry Town Council, Custodian Trustee for the Memorial Hall & Theatre, is seeking to fill

four Lay Trustee vacancies

in the membership of the Memorial Hall & Theatre Trust, a registered charity.

The Trust is looking for experienced and enthusiastic individuals, who are team players, have an interest in the Memorial Hall & Theatre, plus some knowledge of the arts, marketing, finance, charity law and / or fundraising.

Applications for these voluntary unpaid positions are welcomed from adults from all sections of the community. Please request an application form and information pack from:-

Derek Wolfe, Executive Officer, Barry Town Council, 7 Gladstone Road, Barry, CF62 8NA, or e-mail **derekwolfe@barrytowncouncil.gov.uk** or telephone 01446 738663.

The closing date for the receipt of completed applications is Friday, 30 July.

Temporary BT Phone Book Distributors Wanted
0800 0182500 or **jobs@linkdirect.co.uk**

Send in your Birthday, Anniversary or Congratulatory Message. It costs from as little as £20 plus VAT. Call **The GEM** on 01446 774484

Weddings

Congratulations
to
Zoe & Rhys
for your wedding this Saturday
24th July 2010
WISHING YOU BOTH EVERY HAPPINESS FOR THE FUTURE
All our love, from Bradleigh, family and friends.
XXXX

Property

Exchange Wanted
2/3 bedroom house or flat in Rhoose, Llantwit Major, Penmark or St Athan - any condition. Will help with removal costs.
For HA 2 bedrooomed flat, new kitchen, carpeted throughout, very good condition in Barry West End, near Knap Harbour.
Tel: 01446 710042 or 07896 221092

TO LET
Large 4 Bedroomed House Near Jenner Park School, **BARRY**
Lovely condition, GCH, Fitted kitchen/bathroom.
07788 455656

STABLES TO RENT, PENDOYLAN
Good location with approx. 4 acres of land.
Tel: 07831 588255

TO LET
BARRY ISLAND
Luxury two bedroom loft-style apartment within easy access of beach and parks. Sea views. Fully furnished, secure parking, entry phone system.
Bond & references required.
No DSS - over 26 only.
£495pcm
07912 138342

TO LET
3 Bedroom fully furnished house on **WEST CAMP**
Available from 5th August
£700pcm
01446 795122

TO LET
One Bedroom Flat in **Pencoedtre**
Immaculate condition in quiet area. Bond and references required.
£375pcm
07868 465587

House Clearances

ANDREW WILLIAMS
HOUSE CLEARANCES
FULL/PART
Over 20 years experience. Sympathetic handling of deceased estates, used by estate agents and solicitors.
01446 409266
07885 251742

Birthdays

Martin Daniel Risby

Happy 21st Birthday, Martyn
All our love,
Mum, Rebekah & James
xxxx

TOM ANDREWS

Oooh... How old?
21st
on the 21st July
Congratulations to our lovely boy!
Love and kisses
Mum, Katie and Jen x x x

Happy 50th Birthday Lesley Ord

Have a wonderful day!
All our love, Mam & Dad
xxxx
26th July 2010

Birth Notices

Congratulations to
Rhian Carr *and* **Nick Wilson**
on the birth of
Ellie May
on 14th July, 2010 (7lb 14½ozs)
Lots of love . . . Mum, Dad, Nan, Nan & Gramps, Cherylley & family, Stephen, Stacey & family, Angela, Alan & family, Sandra, Wayne & family x x x

Wanted

A&L SCRAP METALS
WE BUY:
- COPPER
- BRASS
- LEAD
- STAINLESS
- ALUMINIUM
- WIRE & CABLE Etc.
- CARS
- VANS
- LORRIES
- ALL SCRAP METAL

Cash Paid £££££
Up to £3.90 per kilo given for Copper
TURN YOUR OLD METAL INTO CASH
CALL: 01446 701707

Postcard & Stamp Collections
Bought for cash, top prices paid.
01446 741026

SUTTONS Auto Salvage
Up to £150 paid on collection, for scrap, MOT failures, and tax expired vehicles. Also body shells and scrap metals collected. No wheels, no problem.
Tel: 029 2059 7887
07971 648596

GOLD WANTED
(also Silver)
For Cash & Old Watches
£17 per gram 22ct Gold
Send to: **Dragon's Treasure House**
PO Box 81, Llantwit Major CF71 9BR
01446 796100
or call in at Gift Gallery Commercial Street Llantwit Major
01446 795454

All MoT Failures and No Tax
£100 to £1,000
Collect (any distance).
02920 598762
07816 172933

Congratulations

Luke Christopher Thorngate-Davies LL.B

Congratulations
on your recent graduation from Cardiff Law School

ALL THAT HARD WORK AND DETERMINATION CERTAINLY PAID DIVIDENDS!

Well done Luke - with lots of love from your very proud parents, grandparents and whole family x

CONGRATULATIONS
Kelly Pereira

on your graduation from UWE in Forensic Science 2:1 with honours and also gaining a PhD at York University in Molecular Chemistry.
We are all so proud of your achievements.
Love Mum, Georgia and family. XXXXX

Family Notices

HILTON
Marion
61 years of continual sunshine set at Llandough Hospital on July 16.
A very special person to all she met.
Service at Coychurch Crematorium on Monday July 26 at 2.15pm, followed by refreshments at Brynhill Golf Club.

JAYNES
Ivor
Alan, Valerie and family wish to thank all family and friends for their cards, flowers and support during Ivor's illness.
We know he will be sadly missed by many.

Lost & Found

FOUND
In Arno Road, Barry
Young tabby, neutered male cat
Either telephone or text 07831 216170

Public Notices

GOODS VEHICLE OPERATOR'S LICENCE
Mr P Hills
trading as
Van Spares Llandow Ltd
of
Sambucus Avenue Llandow Trading Estate CF71 7PB
is applying for a licence to use:
Sambucus Avenue Llandow Trading Estate CF71 7PB
as an operating centre for 1 goods vehicles and 0 trailers.

Owners or occupiers of land (including buildings) near the operating centre(s) who believe that their use or enjoyment of that land would be affected, should make written representations to the Traffic Commissioner at **Welsh Traffic Area Office, Hillcrest House, 386 Harehills Lane, Leeds LS9 6NF** stating their reasons, within 21 days of this notice. Representors must at the same time send a copy of their representations to the applicant at the address given at the top of this notice. A Guide to making representations is available from the Traffic Commissioner's Office.

barry-today.co.uk
cowbridge-today.co.uk
llantwit-major-today.co.uk
porthcawl-today.co.uk
bridgend-today.co.uk
Glamorgan GEM Websites
News, Sport, Letters, Features, What's On, Jobs, Motors....

Motors For Sale

2000 X Reg Fiat Coupe 20v

Metallic Black, only 65,000 miles, full Fiat service history, cam belt changed, MOT. One of the last made, so all electric extras including sunroof. Cost £22,000 new, Sony sound system, superb example.
Reduced to £2,600 for quick sale
07866 391835 • 02920 531417

Toyota Celica 1.8VVTi
LIMITED EDITION BLUE MODEL
Black, alloy wheels, spoiler, leather seats, air con, 6-disc CD changer, service history, tax & MOT.
£6,750 ono
07850 701756 o/g

Saab 93 2 Litre Convertible
Power roof, full e/pack, heated seats, cream leather interior, MOT & Tax, VGC.
£1,995 ono
07903 822944 28

Ford KA 02 1.3
Red, 56,000 miles, MOT until Feb 2011.
£1,750 ono
07976 938871 28

03 Audi TT 1.8 (150bhp)
Red, convertible, FSH, only 46k, immaculate condition.
£8,750 ono
01446 711639
07974 748985 28

FORD Fiesta 1.3 Zetec
3-dr hatchback, a/c, cd, alloy wheels, MOT until Feb 2011, Tax until April 2011, Red, 11,600 miles, ideal first car.
Offers around **£1,095**
01446 749288
07847 657316

01 Ford Ka
Metallic blue, K40, Mot'd till June 2011, taxed till Dec 2010. Excellent condition, new brakes.
£1,550 ono
07910 417471
07910 554483 30

Peugeot 307 2.0 XSi
Red, 2003, 49k, Mot'd July 2011, Taxed Sept 31 2010, 2 Lady Owners, Top Spec
£3,750 ono
07910 417471
07910 554483

CARAVANS

Panoramic Sea Front Position in small Vale Park
Luxury Willerby caravan 6-berth, one double en-suite, 37x12', verandah. High quality furniture & fittings, DG, CH, Tel point. 10/12 mths occupancy, 5 yrs old, No dogs.
£23,500 ono
07507 772888 30

Motorbikes

SUZUKI GS500F 2005
Blue, plus extras, one owner, 5,020 miles.
£2,250 ono
01446 413034 28

Deadline for Motor Cars is 12 noon on Tuesday

Articles For Sale

TRIPLE WARDROBE £95. Glass coffee table £25. Beko fridge/freezer with drinks dispenser, one year old £200. Wall unit £20. Tel: 01446 701645. **(30)**

SONY 32" COLOUR TV FST, 7 speaker surround sound £75. Tel: 01446 773010. **(30)**

THREE PIECE SUITE Two months old, soft cover £500 ono. Tel: 01446 406735. **(30)**

CHESTERFIELD Leather 3 seater settee and chair in antique red. Some slight damage on arm of settee. £275 buyer collects. Tel: 01446 773607. **(30)**

ELECTRIC BOOTY Scooter, brand new £525. Tel: 01446 711680. **(30)**

CARAVAN AWNING 12ft tourer £95. Tel: 02920 515234. **(30)**

CHILDREN'S WARDROBE with 3 sliding drawers inside and drawer at the bottom. £100 ono. Tel: 01446 771330. **(30)**

G-PLAN TEAK Dressing table, stool, 2 wardrobes (1 fitted), 8 drawer chest, upholstered headboard with two 3-drawer chests. Offers - will split, buyer collects. Tel: Miskin 01443 230249. **(29)**

THREE PIECE SUITE Multi-coloured: greens, browns, reds. Three seater & 2 chairs. Can deliver £80 ono. Tel: 07813 960208. **(29)**

LADIES CLOTHES Excellent quality. All kinds, top name designers. Household goods, good qualiy. Tel: 01446 742051. **(29)**

UNDER-COUNTER FREEZER One year old £35 ono. Tel: 07711 087725. **(29)**

VERTICAL BLINDS for French doors, cream (45" x 81") £45. Vertical blinds, cream (44"x45") £25. Very good condition. Tel: 01446 795043. **(29)**

TWO FOLDING Picnic chairs £7.50 each ono. Two folding lounge chairs £10 each ono. Plus carrying bags. Tel: 01446 794822. **(28)**

BAXI GAS FIRE and back boiler £260. Tel: 01446 774438. **(28)**

BRUM PEDAL CAR Age 3+, VGC, steel, padded seat, horn, adjustable pedals, solid wheels with rubber tyres £85. Tel: 07725 039762. **(28)**

ROLLY KID X-TRAC RED RIDE-ON TRACTOR (age 3+) as new. Adjustable seat, brake and gears, wheel chain drive £75. Tel: 07725 039762. **(28)**

COMPUTER Unused and complete £85. Tel: 01446 751183. **(28)**

STEPPING OUT WITH THE PENARTH AND DISTRICT RAMBLERS

Laughter, tea and cakes – as walkers meet with old friends

ON a bright, fine summer evening recently, nine walkers joined Janet and John at the Cwm Ciddy pub before they set off down Cwm Ciddy lane.

The Welsh Cwm Cidi is translated as the valley of the black dog which legend says could be heard howling, even after he had died, but no howling was heard as the group entered Porthkerry Park.

Following the road for a short distance, they climbed up through the woods beside the main Cardiff to Bridgend railway line and a stile led them through the meadow at West Ridge, where there were fine views across to the Somerset coastline and over Porthkerry Bay below them.

A walk along the edge of a field of ripening barley brought them down through the valley beside the Whitelands Brook to the Old Rectory, or Egerton Grey, and crossing a field they began the climb up the old sunken lane to Porthkerry village.

After a brief stop at St Curig's Church, they followed steep pathways through the woods to return for a tour of Porthkerry Park, where local historical sites were pointed out before their return journey back to the pub.

When a reunion of the group was planned to coincide with the Ramblers' 75th celebrations during 2010, the day also happened to be the hottest Saturday so far, but this did not deter 14 walkers from turning up at Wenvoe Community Hall, just raring to go!

Armed with sun hats and cream and plenty of water, they met up with Geraint and his sheepdog Patch to do a local walk at Wenvoe and Wrinstone.

Meanwhile, preparations were afoot inside the hall before the guests arrived to enjoy afternoon tea later on, and one of the first to arrive was Mina Fairfax with her daughter Janet.

Mina (also known affectionately to the group as 'auntie') did not begin her rambling career until she was 78, following the death of her beloved husband Arthur, and always remarked that joining Ramblers 'had been her salvation' and how marvellous to see her looking so well some 14 years on.

She dedicated a stile to the memory of her husband near where they did their courting, which is now part of the Highlight Trail, and members still tramp across it on their way through the Vale.

It was good to see so many faces from the 'good old days' and renew friendships with walk leaders and members who no longer, for a variety of reasons, walk now.

When the walkers returned from the warm sunshine, they were flushed and hot and glad to sit down and enjoy copious amounts of tea, together with their fellow guests.

Sandwiches, biscuits and cakes were soon devoured and much laughter rang out as funny moments were relived, old photographs were poured over, and those who are no longer with us were fondly remembered.

Thanks go to all who took the time to come along and make the afternoon so special, and especially to Geraint for leading the walk.

Special thanks go to Val, Ann, Lorraine and Janet for the food and their labours in the kitchen, and lastly Jacqueline, for donating her much loved trademark – a jar of aniseed balls!

Finally, a very special thanks from Joy, who upon reaching 'bus pass' age, was serenaded with a rousing chorus of 'Happy Birthday', three cheers, a signed card, and a birthday cake with candles – and only just under three years to go until the group celebrate their 20th birthday.

For other groups' walk log onto www.ramblers.org.uk Rucksack badges, programmes and membership advice can be obtained from Pam on 029 2021 9102.

JOY STRANGWARD

Ty Hafan winners

THE following are winning numbers in the Ty Hafan Crackerjackpot lottery draw number D627.

- **The rollover, which now stands at £2,500 was not won this week.**
- **£2,000:** 586277.
- **£10:** 232801; 588019; 321690; 661040; 294374; 382812; 698631; 736656; 683982; 450950; 269831; 207403; 467715; 258007; 231853; 307667; 860732; 710730; 172989; 187319.
- **£5:** 653247; 166984; 589865; 640649; 348467; 634074; 566301; 359436; 354505; 623503; 752955; 809953; 623265; 333385; 233046; 647742; 777721; 377417; 187936; 208402; 453359; 330493; 117550; 562095; 387623; 454815; 231835; 770765; 186824; 486102; 738708; 305640; 731319; 117823; 308971; 330230; 436576; 128986; 423345; 249524; 848523; 843290; 614043; 709206; 447919; 852293; 209760; 330692; 107943; 490812; 252421; 182473; 393479; 285297; 623401; 380059; 637536; 739273; 934334; 533817.

The GEM cannot be held responsible for any errors or omissions contained in the above.

For lottery information, please telephone 02920 672062.

VALE of GLAMORGAN
BRO MORGANNWG

Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976 variation of fees for Hackney Carriage Vehicle Licences and Private Hire Vehicle/Operator Licences.

Notice is hereby given that The Vale of Glamorgan Council proposes to vary the fees for the grant or renewal of the Hackney Carriage Vehicle Licences and Private Hire Vehicle/Operators Licences pursuant to the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976.

The proposed variations are:

	Present Fee	Proposed Fee
Hackney Carriage/Private Hire Vehicle Licences	1 Year Licence £212.00 6 month licence £125.00 4 month licence £125.00	£230.00 £136.00 £136.00
Transfer of Vehicle	£31.50	£35.00
Private Hire Operators Licence	£203.00 (Annual)	£225.00
	£549.00 (3 year)	£600.00
Test Fees 1st retest without need for MOT	£28.00	£35.00
Subsequent Re-test	£50.00	£60.00
Cancellation of vehicle test within one working day or non-attendance at Test		£45.00
Test resulting from Suspension Notice	£50.00	£60.00
Replacement Door Signs and Window Licence	£5.00 each	£6.00 each
Replacement Plate	£10.00	£12.00
Replacement Paper Licence	£12.00	£12.00

Any objection to the proposed variation of the above fees shall be made in writing/ fax or email and sent to the Director of Legal, Public Protection & Housing Services, Licensing Section, Civic Offices, Holton Road, Barry CF63 4RU, fax 01446 709808, email licensing@valeofglamorgan.gov.uk, within 28 days of this Notice stating the grounds on which it is made.

If no objections are made the proposed fees shall come into operation on 1st September 2010.

The following variation of fees shall come into effect on 1st September 2010:

	Present Fee	Proposed Fee
Hackney Carriage/Private Hire Drivers Licence – 1 year	£66.50	£80.00
Knowledge Test Re-sit		£25.00
Driver Application pack (Hard Copy)		£5.00
Driver Badge – Refundable	£2.50	£3.50
Replacement Driver Badge	£5.00	£7.50
Criminal Records Bureau check (Set by CRB)	£36.00	£36.00
Replacement Paper Licence	£12.00	£12.00

A copy of this Notice has been deposited and may be inspected without charge at the Civic Offices, Holton Road, Barry.

P H Evans
Director of Legal, Public Protection & Housing Services
Dated: Thursday 22nd July 2010

Deddf Llywodraeth Leol (Darpariaethau Amrywiol) 1976 amrywiad i'r ffioedd ar gyfer Trwyddedau Cerbyd Hacni a Trwyddedau Cerbyd/Gweithredydd Hurio Preifat.

Rhoddir rybudd bod Cyngor Bro Morgannwg yn cynnig amrywio ffioedd ar gyfer caniatau neu adnewyddiad Trwyddedau Cerbyd Hacni a Trwyddedau Cerbyd/Gweithredydd Hurio Preifat yn unol â'r Deddf Llywodraeth Leol (Darpariaethau Amrywiol) 1976

Yr amrywiadau arfaethedig yw:

	Ffioedd Presennol	Ffioedd Arfaethedig
Trwydded Cerbyd Hacni / Trwydded Cerbyd Hurio Preifat	Trwydded blwyddyn £212.00 Trwydded 6 mis £125.00 Trwydded 4 mis £125.00	£230.00 £136.00 £136.00
Trosglwyddo Cerbyd	£31.50	£35.00
Trwydded Gwethredydd Hurio Preifat	£203.00 (Blynyddol)	£225.00
	£549.00 (3 blwyddyn)	£600.00
Ffioedd Prawf Ail brawf 1af heb angen MOT	£28.00	£35.00
Yr ail brawf dilynol	£50.00	£60.00
Prawf certbyd yn cael ei ganslo o fewn un diwrnod gweithio neu dim presenoldeb yn yr prawf		£45.00
Prawf yn arwain o Rhybudd Atal	£50.00	£60.00
Arwyddion Drws a Trwydded Ffenestr Newydd	£5.00 pob un	£6.00 pob un
Plât Newydd	£10.00	£12.00
Trwydded Papur Newydd	£12.00	£12.00

Dylai unrhyw gwrthwynebiad i'r amrywiad a cynnigir i'r ffioedd uchod gael ei wneud yn ysgrifinedig, ffacs neu ebost ac ei yrru i Cyfarwyddwr Cyfreithiol, Amddiffyn y Cyhoedd a Thai, Adran Trwyddedu, Y Swyddfeydd Dinesig, Heol Holton, Y Barri, Bro Morgannwg, CF63 4RU, ffacs 01446 709808, ebost licensing@valeofglamorgan.gov.uk, o fewn 28 diwrnod o'r rhybudd yma yn nodi sail y mae'n cael ei wneud.

Os nid oes wrthwynebiad, daw'r ffioedd arfaethedig i rym ar y 1af o Fedi 2010.

Mae'r amrywiad canlynol o'r ffioedd yn cymeryd effaith ar y 1af o Fedi 2010:

	Ffioedd Presennol	Ffioedd Arfaethedig
Gyrrwyr Cerbyd Hacni / Hurio Preifat Trwydded - 1 Blwyddyn	£66.50	£80.00
Ail Eistedd Prawf Gwybodaeth		£25.00
Pac Cais Gyrrwr (Copi Caled)		£5.00
Bathodyn Gyrrwr - Ad-daliad	£2.50	£3.50
Bathodyn Gyrrwr Newydd	£5.00	£7.50
Cais Swyddfa Cofnodion Troseddol (CRB)	£36.00	£36.00
Trwydded Papur Newydd	£12.00	£12.00

Mae copi o'r rhybudd wedi cael ei adneuwyd ac ar gael i'w arolygu heb tâl yn Y Swyddfeydd Dinesig, Heol Holton, Y Barri.

P H Evans
Cyfrwyddwr Cyfreithiol, Amddiffyn y Cyhoedd a Thai
Dyddiad: Dydd Iau 22ain o Orffennaf 2010

THE VALE OF GLAMORGAN COUNCIL PLANNING (LISTED BUILDINGS AND CONSERVATION AREAS) ACT, 1990

CYNGOR BRO MORGANNWG DEDDF CYNLLUNIO (ADEILADAU RHESTREDIG AC ARDALOEDD CADWRAETH) 1990

NOTICE is hereby given that application has been made to the Council for planning permission for the undermentioned developments:

HYSBYSIR trwy hyn i geisiadau gael eu gwneud i'r Cyngor am ganiatâd cynllunio ar gyfer y datblygiadau canlynol:

Development in Conservation Areas
Datblygiad mewn Ardaloedd Cadwraeth

Application No:/
Rhif y cais: 2010/00678/FUL
Proposal:/Cynnig: Double storey side extension above existing ground floor
Location:/Lleoliad: 4, Maes-Y-Ffynon, Bonvilston
Conservation Area:/
Ardal Gadwraeth Bonvilston

Application No:/
Rhif y cais: 2010/00692/FUL
Proposal:/Cynnig: Replacement of shop front
Location:/Lleoliad: Newport House, Commercial Street, Llantwit Major
Conservation Area:/
Ardal Gadwraeth Llantwit Major

Listed Building Consent
Caniatâd Adeilad Rhestredig

Application No:/
Rhif y cais: 2010/00679/LBC
Proposal:/Cynnig: Amendments to previously approved conversion and extension of Crawshay House to create 6 flats
Location:/Lleoliad: Crawshay House, Hensol Castle Park, Hensol
Listed Building:/
Adeilad Rhestredig Grade I

Application No:/
Rhif y cais: 2010/00681/LBC
Proposal:/Cynnig: New two storey extension to rear (north) side of existing house (on site of existing garage and sitting room). Works to include the demolition of the existing modern flat roof single storey garage and sitting room
Location:/Lleoliad: The Lodge, Dimlands Road, Llantwit Major
Listed Building:/
Adeilad Rhestredig Grade II

Application No:/
Rhif y cais: 2010/00694/LBC
Proposal:/Cynnig: The provision of a handrail to the existing external steps leading from the driveway up to the front entrance door. The handrail to the upper flight extends to form a barrier rail between personnel and existing full height glazing to the south western flank of the porch.
Location:/Lleoliad: 2, Little Orchard, Dinas Powys
Listed Building:/
Adeilad Rhestredig Grade II

TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING (GENERAL DEVELOPMENT PROCEDURE) ORDER 1995
GORCHYMYN CYNLLUNIO GWLAD A THREF (TREFN DATBLYGIAD CYFFREDINOL) 1995

Application(s) that may be of General Public Interest
Ceisiadau a allai fod o Ddiddordeb Cyffredinol i'r Cyhoedd

Application No:/
Rhif y cais: 2010/00667/FUL
Proposal:/Cynnig: Processing of existing stockpiles and loose material with crushing and screening machinery and removal from site. (renewal of 2009/00544/FUL)
Location:/Lleoliad: Argoed Isha Quarry, Llansannor

Application No:/
Rhif y cais: 2010/00671/FUL
Proposal:/Cynnig: Variation of Condition 27 of approval 2010/00058/FUL - method statement for protecting Great Crested Newts
Location:/Lleoliad: Land off Port Road East, Barry (Proposed Crematorium)

Application No:/
Rhif y cais: 2010/00696/FUL
Proposal:/Cynnig: Re-grading of site, remediation of contamination and construction of link road to Barry Island
Location:/Lleoliad: Land at Barry Waterfront adjacent to Dock No. 1, Barry

Application(s) which might affect a Public Right of Way
Ceisiadau a allai effeithio ar Hawl Tramwy Cyhoeddus

Application No:/
Rhif y cais: 2010/00666/FUL
Proposal:/Cynnig: Continued use of quarry as a training centre for CPCS operator training.
Location:/Lleoliad: Argoed Isha Quarry, Llansannor, Llanharry, Pontyclun

Application No:/
Rhif y cais: 2010/00667/FUL
Proposal:/Cynnig: Processing of existing stockpiles and loose material with crushing and screening machinery and removal from site. (renewal of 2009/00544/FUL)
Location:/Lleoliad: Argoed Isha Quarry, Llansannor

Application No:/
Rhif y cais: 2010/00696/FUL
Proposal:/Cynnig: Re-grading of site, remediation of contamination and construction of link road to Barry Island
Location:/Lleoliad: Land at Barry Waterfront adjacent to Dock No. 1, Barry

Full details (including plans) may be inspected during normal working hours for a period of 21 days in the offices of the Head of Planning and Transportation at the address given below, or via the Council's Online Applications Register at vog.planning-register.co.uk
Mae'r holl fanylion (gan gynnwys y cynlluniau) i'w gweld yn swyddfeydd Pennaeth Cynllunio a Chludiant y cyngor (gwelwch y cyfeiriad ar waelod y dudalen) yn ystod oriau arferol swyddfa, am gyfnod o 21 o ddiwrnodau. Cewch eu gweld hefyd ar Gofrestr Ceisiadau Ar-lein y cyngor drwy fynd i vog.planning-register.co.uk.

Dated: 22 July, 2010
Rob Thomas
Head of Planning and Transportation
The Vale of Glamorgan Council,
Dock Office,
Barry Docks,
Barry
CF63 4RT

Dyddiedig: 22 Gorffennaf, 2010
Rob Thomas
Pennaeth Cynllunio a Chludiant
Cyngor Bro Morgannwg,
Swyddfa'r Doc,
Dociau'r Barri,
Y Barri
CF63 4RT

GLAMORGAN FARMERS GOLF SOCIETY

Trevor goes home for winning return

ABOVE: Runner-up Brian Jones, captain Gino Cocco and winner Trevor Wooding.

TREVOR WOODING made a successful return to his local Llantrisant & Pontyclun Golf Club recently when competing in the captain's day competition organised by the Glamorgan Farmers' Golf Society.

Having joined the club in 1983, where he remained until 1996, Trevor scored an impressive 37-stableford points to collect first prize.

Semi-retired Llantwit Major farmer Brian Jones, with 36 points, finished runner-up, while in third place was veterinary surgeon Mike King with 35 points, with Robert Thomas finishing fourth.

Nearest the pin on the par three holes were Griff Morgan, Raymond Thomas, Trevor Wooding, Dai John and David Williams, who also collected the 'James the Butcher' sponsored longest drive prize.

Gwyn Thomas' decision to invest in a series of golf lessons from a local professional seems to be paying off, with Gwyn correctly forecasting 39 golf balls would remain out on this well maintained parkland course to collect the 'Premier Turf' sponsored lost ball prize of a bottle of whiskey.

Special thanks to Mrs Audrey Cocco and her team of ladies who provided excellent refreshments at the halfway stage, and also to captain Gino for providing all the prizes.

Society members are now looking forward to the annual pairs' competition for the Maesglas Veterinary Shield, scheduled for Langland Bay Golf Club on Thursday, July 29, and the generous sponsorship of Mr Mike King.

TMcC

Sea View lads have good sport at Sully Island

A FEW of the boys fished on Sully Island over high water and had good sport.

Aida Harris won the latest SLAC competition with a nice 5lb-plus bass and a couple of strap eels for a total weight of 14lb.

Jodie Velda was second again, this time with a bass 4lb-plus, and a thornback ray. Apparently the bass died of exhaustion by the time it was reeled in. After Jodie cast out he fell asleep only, to discover the fish had dragged the 8oz weight back to the shore from the middle of the channel. Micky Langford was third with a strap eel and a few bits.

The 'golden maggot' will be fished in August over the weekend of the 20th, so please check your competition sheets and see the new dates posted online. The next boat trip is Saturday, July 24, there may be a spare place if you book quickly – the last few trips have enjoyed big weights!

Tim's Stratford Sunday winner

ABERTHIN'S Tim Vaughan doesn't believe in letting the grass grow under his feet and at Stratford recently, he landed the novices handicap hurdle with his six-year-old chestnut gelding *Penyfan Dawn* who, under Richard Johnson, scored by three lengths from *Cool Bob*.

A reject of champion trainer Paul Nicholls's yard, *Penyfan Dawn*, who carried top weight of 11st 12lbs, was a 9-1 chance and was some consolation for the narrow defeat earlier in the afternoon of the trainer's *Dead Or Alive* who was beaten a head by the Jonjo O'Neill-trained *Sea Wall*.

BRIAN LEE

Golf day raises £5000 for Arthritis Research

The winning team from KCS Transport Limited.

ARTHRITIS Research UK (formerly known as the Arthritis Research Campaign 'arc') held its fifth annual corporate Golf Day at Cottrell Park Golf Club and raised £5,000.

The cash will help the charity work to take the pain away from the thousands of people, including young children who suffer with this debilitating disease.

The sun shone on the 24 teams of golfers while they competed in the stableford competition. The winning team, who scored 120 points, were led by Ken Sievewright of KCS Transport Limited, who is an avid supporter of the charity. His team mates were Mark Merrett, Bob Penrose and Dave Morgan. The prize was a four ball at Whitchurch Golf Club and Cottrell Park Golf T Shirts for each of the players.

The day was finished off by a presentation for the first three winning teams, the winners of the longest drive, the nearest the pin and guess the number of balls lost!

An auction took place, where the participants were extremely generous and the players were later joined by family and friends to enjoy a hog roast meal.

The charity would like to thank David Johns-Powell and his staff at Cottrell Park Golf Club, who worked so hard to make the day possible and without the help of people like him and the general public, would not be able to carry out the research that it does, as Arthritis Research UK receives no government funding whatsoever.

For details on forthcoming events and the work that is carried by Arthritis Research UK, contact Fred Johnson; Anna-Marie Jones or Joe Taylor on 01446 722957 or f.johnson@arthritisresearchuk.org/a.jones@arthritisresearchuk.org/j.taylor@arthritisresearchuk.org.

CHARITY RACE NIGHT

THE Duke of Wellington in Cowbridge is holding a charity fun race night in aid of Velindre Hospital on Friday, July 23, at 8pm. Free entry; free raffle. *Telephone 01446 773592 for full details.*

Vale of Glamorgan midweek cricket league round-up

THE rains finally arrived resulting in the cancellation of four of the scheduled fixtures.

However, the key fixture of the season between Barry Internationals and Llantwit Major Cavaliers was played at Penarth.

Batting first on a cold, cloudy night, Internationals piled up a score of 170 for 8, with Jeevan punishing the Cavaliers attack and scoring 78, including four sixes. Jack Lansdowne took 3 for 32 and Julian Griffiths 2 for 15.

The Internationals attack kept the Cavaliers reply under control throughout. Griffiths and Landsdowne both scored 41 not out, but the Internationals prevailed by 41 runs to take over at the top of the table.

The match was well umpired by Messrs. Davies and Rogers who reported that the game was played in a very good manner.

With just four league games left to play it appears only a disaster could now prevent Internationals lifting the title.

Lisvane, 2009 champions, moved back into third place after defeating a depleted Fontygary by six wickets. Lloyd Bruce's unbeaten 24 was the only innings of note in Fonty's score of 81. Alex Curry (3 for 14) and Nick Haincock (4 for 16) did the damage with the ball for Lisvane, who knocked off the runs quickly, despite the efforts of Matt Thomas who returned 2 for 13.

Previously, Fonty had rattled up a score of 161 for 6 to gain only their second win of the season, against Dinas Powys. Richard Jones scored 60 and Nicky Jones took 5 for 10 in just two overs to stun the Dinas batsmen.

Another bowler taking five wickets was Cogan's Dave Dibble, who returned the astonishing figures of 5 for 1 at Pencoed. Chasing 112 to win, the Chiefs were led home by Lee Packer-Williams' 56.

Pencoed then travelled to Hayes Point and scored 118 for 7, Al Gregory top-scoring with 29 and Nimesh Suraya taking 2 for 5. Barry Wanderers, led by Ed Sherriff's unbeaten 58, stormed to a nine wicket win which keeps the club in fourth place.

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07	1.6i 16V Forte 5dr Estate	Red	37485 miles	£5,495
08	1.6i 16V VTR 5dr Estate	Grey	12811 miles	£8,995
CITROEN C1				
08	1.0i Vibe 3dr Hatch	Grey	22108 miles	£5,995
08	1.0i Vibe 5dr Hatch	Red	15469 miles	£5,995
08	1.0i Code 5dr Hatch Special Edition	Black	12755 miles	£6,995
08	1.0i Rhythm 5dr Hatch	Red	11819 miles	£6,995
CITROEN C3				
07	1.4i Desire 5dr Hatch Special Edition	Grey	28544 miles	£5,495
05	1.4i Desire 5dr Hatch Special Edition	Silver	22797 miles	£4,295
08	1.4i Rhythm 5dr Hatch	Blue	12246 miles	£6,995
07	1.4i SX 5dr Hatch	Silver	15710 miles	£5,995
08	1.4i 16V Cachet 5dr Hatch Special Ed	Grey	29945 miles	£6,995
08	1.4i Vibe 5dr Hatch	Red	15000 miles	£5,995
07	1.6i 16V VTR 5dr Hatch	Red	21500 miles	£6,495
07	1.4i SX 5dr Hatch	Silver	16800 miles	£5,495
08	1.4i Cool 5dr Hatch Special Edition	Grey	9000 miles	£6,295
09	1.4 VTi 16V Exclusive 5dr Hatch Botticelli	Blue	3328 miles	£11,995
10	1.4i VTR 5dr Hatch	Silver	3000 miles	£7,995
07	1.4 HDi Cool 5dr Hatch Special Edition	Grey	18000 miles	£6,495
08	1.6 HDi 16V Exclusive Plus 5dr Hatch Sp Ed	Silver	12000 miles	£7,995
CITROEN C3 PICASSO				
09	1.6 HDi 16V VTR+ 5dr Diesel Estate	Black	7133 miles	£10,995
10	1.6 HDi 16V Exclusive 5dr Diesel Estate	Blue	2500 miles	£12,995
CITROEN C4				
08	1.6i 16V Cool 3dr Coupe Sp Eds	Grey	11000 miles	£6,995
07	1.6i 16V SX 5dr Auto Hatch	Silver	46397 miles	£5,995
07	1.6i 16V SX 5dr Auto Hatch	Black	32489 miles	£5,995
07	1.6i 16V SX 5dr Hatch	Blue	32661 miles	£5,995
59	1.6i 16V THP VTS 3dr Coupe	Blue	2967 miles	£11,495
07	1.6i 16V Cool 3dr Coupe Sp Eds	Silver	24807 miles	£6,495
07	1.6i 16V VTR Plus 3dr Coupe	Grey	22698 miles	£6,495
CITROEN C4 GRAND PICASSO				
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CITROEN C4 PICASSO				
08	2.0HDi 16V Exclusive 5dr EGS [5 Seat] Diesel Estate	Silver	36,302 miles	£12,495
CITROEN C5				
06	2.0 HDi 16V VTR 5dr Diesel Estate	Grey	50000 miles	£6,995
06	2.0 HDi 16V Exclusive 5dr Diesel Hatch	Silver	35568 miles	£6,995
10	2.0 HDI 16V VTR+ 4dr Diesel Saloon	Grey	3137 miles	£16,995
58	2.0 HDI 16V Exclusive 4dr Diesel Saloon	Black	30400 miles	£12,495
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10	1.4i 8v 5dr Estate	Blue	2800 miles	£8,495
CITROEN RELAY				
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CITROEN XSARA PICASSO				
06	1.6i 16V VTX 5dr Estate	Silver	12336 miles	£6,495
06	1.6i 16V LX 5dr Estate	Silver	24900 miles	£4,995
06	1.6i 16V Desire 5dr Estate	Silver	27043 miles	£5,995
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??	1.6i 16V Desire 5dr Estate	Beige	44000 miles	£5,495
05	2.0 HDi Exclusive 5dr Diesel Estate	Red	25876 miles	£4,995
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03 **03 BMW 3 Series 2.0 318Ci SE Convertible.** In light yellow metallic, with full black leather interior, electric heated seats with memory, cruise control, climate control, rear parking sensors, 18" Msport alloy wheels, only 55,615 miles..... **£11,995**

03 **03 BMW 330 Ci 2-Door Convertible.** In Topaz blue with grey Montana interior, 6-CD multi-changer, heated seats, automatic air con, cruise control, rear parking sensors, only 55,130 miles..... **£11,995**

02 **51 MERCEDES BENZ C-Class 2.0 C180 Sport Coupe** in brilliant silver met with Ascot interior, dual zone climate control, cruise control, auto lights, cd, alloy wheels, only 70,647 miles **£6,995**

SPORTS

09 **09 MINI 1.6 (120bhp) Cooper (Pepper) Graphite** In graphite grey with black interior, storage compartment package, 2 spoke leather steering wheel, air con, CD, only 6,570 miles **£14,495**

09 **58 VAUXHALL Astra 1.8 SRi Sporthatch.** In technical grey met with silver alpha interior, air con, alloy wheels, body coloured bumpers, rear spoiler, trip computer, only 26,770 miles **£9,995**

07 **57 HYUNDAI Coupe 2.0 SIII** in steel grey with full red leather interior, climate control, sunroof, cruise control, alloy wheels, only 23,600 miles **£9,995**

07 **07 VOLKSWAGEN Golf 2.0 TDi DPF (170PS) GT Sport 5-dr** in met shadow blue with full Vienna leather heated seats, sunroof, climate, I-pod dock, 18 inch Charlston alloy wheels, only 37,111 miles..... **£13,995**

07 **07 SEAT Leon 2.0 TDi DPF FR 5-dr Hatchback.** In black magic with FR grey interior, cruise control, air con, traction control system, ESP, only 36,598 miles **£12,795**

06 **56 VOLKSWAGEN Golf 1.4TSi (170ps) FT 5-dr** in reflex silver metallic with siemere anthracite interior, climatic air con, front fogs, alloy wheels, cd, only 49,998 miles..... **£10,995**

06 **56 HONDA Civic 1.8i V-tec Type-S 3-dr Hatchback.** In alabaster silver with alcantara/suede interior, climate control, CD, alloy wheels, colour coded bumpers, only 24,405 miles..... **£9,995**

05 **55 FORD Street Ka 1.6 Luxury 2-dr Convertible.** In French blue with ebony black leather interior, air con, cd, quick clear front screen, only 21,720 miles **£5,995**

04 **04 TOYOTA MR2 1.8 VVTi 140 6-spd** in sable grey met with Santa Monica leather, alloy wheels, chrome roll over bar, wind deflector, cd, alarm and immobiliser, only 49,750 miles **£7,495**

04 **54 AUDI A3 2.0TDi Sport 3-dr Hatchback.** In crystal blue with matrix black cloth/leather, cd, alloy wheels, climate control, electronic stability programme, only 64,000 miles **£9,995**

04 **54 MITSUBISHI Shogun Sport 2.5 TD 5-Dr Station Wagon.** In black Mica with black leather interior, air con, alloy wheels, CD, immobiliser, only 54,530 miles **£8,995**

04 **54 VOLKSWAGEN Polo 1.9 TDi (100ps) Sport 5-dr** in rosewood red pearlescent with scala sports interior, alloy wheels, air con, body coloured bumpers, cd, only 59,790 miles **£5,995**

04 **04 PEUGEOT 206 2.0 GTi 180 3-dr Hatchback** in pearlescent Aegean blue with apicula suede interior, c/c, alloy whels, cd autochanger, fog lights, only 47,370 miles..... **£5,495**

04 **54 MG TF 1.8 135 Convertible.** In ignition blue with anthracite Sebring interior, alloy wheels, cd player, alarm and immobiliser only 27,100 miles..... **£4,995**

04 **04 AUDI TT Roadster, 1.8T Quattro (180bhp) 2-dr Convertible.** In cherry black with black leather interior, 18" alloy wheels, BOSE sound system, traction control system, front fogs, only 35,200 miles..... **£11,995**

04 **04 CITROEN C2 1.6 VTR Sensodrive** in arctic steel silver with neutron mesh interior, paddle shift, alloy wheels, air con, colour coded bumpers, rear spoiler, cd, only 62,100 miles **£3,995**

03 **53 MG TF 1.8 135bhp 2-door Convertible.** In starlight silver with black interior, alloy wheels, body coloured bumpers, CD, electric windows, only 30,845 miles..... **£4,495**

02 **02 AUDI TT Roadster 1.8T Quattro (225bhp) 2-dr Convertible.** In silver with special edition grey leather interior, Bose sound system, heated seats, alloy wheels, climate control, only 70,620 miles **£9,995**

02 **02 MG ZS 2.5 180.** In anthracite black, with monaco ash interior with red inserts, alloy wheels, a/c, cd, colour coded bumpers, front fogs, alarm and immobiliser, only 62,310 miles..... **£2,995**

01 **Y Mitsubishi Shogun 3.2 DI-D GLX LE LWB.** In metallic silver with blue velour interior, cd, alloys, air con, electric windows/mirrors, alarm and immobiliser, only 88,471 miles..... **£6,495**

00 **W LEXUS IS200 2.0 Sport 4-Door Saloon.** In Strathcarn blue with Oakham suede/leather interior, multi-CD, electric heated seats, electric sunroof, air con, only 57,280 miles **£4,495**

FAMILY

08 **08 VAUXHALL Astra 1.6 Breeze 5-dr** in star silver met with tabita charcoal interior, alloy wheels, climate control, trip computer, body coloured bumpers, only 10,800 miles..... **£9,495**

07 **57 NISSAN QashQai 2.0dCi Tenka 5-dr AWD.** In pearl black metallic, with full graphite leather interior, alloy wheels, climate control, cruise control, cd with bluetooth, heated seats, rear parking sensors, panoramic sunroof, only 37,267 miles **£15,995**

07 **57 CITROEN C3 1.4 HDi Cool 5-dr hatchback** in Arctic silver with Galand black interior, air con, cd, immobiliser, £35 a year road tax, one owner, only 37,845 miles **£6,995**

07 **07 RENAULT Clio 1.4 16v 98 Dynamique 5-dr Hatchback.** In mercury silver with carbon sport interior, air con, CD, front fogs, alarm, only 15,060 miles **£7,295**

07 **07 VAUXHALL Vectra 1.8VVT (140PS) 5-dr hatchback** in metro blue with Duke/Elba charcoal interior, air con, alloy wheels, cruisecontrol, alarm, only 27,400 miles..... **£4,495**

06 **06 FORD Focus Zetec Climate 1.8 TDCi Diesel 5-dr Hatchback.** In black with dark interior, alloy wheels, air con, CD, colour coded bumpers, only 61,199 miles, quick clean screen..... **£6,995**

05 **55 RENAULT Megane 1.6 16v Dynamique** in met platinum silver with ruche cloth interior, auto lights, auto wipers, air con, cd, clour coded bumpers, only 16,380 miles..... **£5,495**

05 **05 HONDA Civic 1.7 CDTi** in magnetic blue with hatch fabric interior, alloy wheels, air con, cd, colour coded bumpers, only 55,130 miles..... **£6,495**

05 **05 CITROEN C3 1.4 Desire 5-dr hatchback.** In oriental blue with blue/black Tomy interior, air con, colour coded bumpers, immobiliser only 39,840 miles **£4,295**

05 **05 RENAULT Grand Scenic 1.6vvt 115 Rush 5-dr hatchback.** In met blue with grey interior, air con, cd, colour coded bumpers, 7 seats only 41,240 miles **£5,495**

05 **05 CITROEN C4 1.4 16c (90hp) LX 5-dr hatchback** in Artic steel silver with charcoal interior, cruise control, cd, steering wheel mounted controls, electric mirrors, only 26,970 miles..... **£3,995**

04 **54 FORD Mondeo 2.0 Ghia 5-dr Hatchback.** In platinum silver with aras ebony interior, front and rear fogs, cruise control, multi cd, quick clear windscreen, only 51,140 miles..... **£4,995**

04 **54 CITROEN C3 stop&start 1.4 5-dr Automatic Hatchback.** In silver with blue velour interior, air con, cd, alloy wheels, only 29,920 miles **£4,495**

04 **04 TOYOTA Avensis 2.0 VVTi T-Spirit Auto 4-dr Saloon.** Silver fern, st moritz charcoal leather, map gps nav system, climate, cruise, electric seat adjustment, only 55,065 miles **£5,995**

04 **04 FORD Focus 1.6i 16v Zetec 5-dr Hatchback.** In panther black with Saloman black interior, climate pack which includes air con and quick clear heated front screen, alloys, colour coded bumpers, only 83,060 miles..... **£4,395**

03 **53 TOYOTA Corolla 1.4VVT-i T3 5-dr hatchback** in igneous grey with deemster charcoal interior, cd, alloy wheels, air con, service history, only 27,400 miles..... **£4,495**

03 **53 RENAULT Megane 1.4 16v 98 Dynamique 5-dr hatchback** in pearl black with ruche grey interior, air con, cd, heated seats, alloy wheels, only 62,565 miles **£3,895**

03 **03 HONDA Civic Type S 5-dr** in clover green met with half leather sports seats, climate control, alloy wheels, rear spoiler, full Honda service history, only 36,030 miles..... **£4,995**

02 **51 TOYOTA Corolla 1.6 VVTi GLS Automatic 5-dr.** In Atlantis blue metallic with hocney interior, alloy wheels, air con, sunroof, cd auto-changer, body coloured bumpers, only 34,790 miles **£3,495**

01 **51 MERCEDES Benz A-Class 1.4 A140 Avantguard 5-dr hatchback.** In red with slate grey half leather/cloth interior, cd, ipod connection, air con, alloy wheels, service history, only 47,790 miles **£3,995**

01 **Y AUDI A4 2.0 SE Saloon.** In metallic silver with full beige leather interior, climate control, CD, alloy wheels, electric sunroof, full Audi service history, only 33,005 miles..... **£4,995**

SMALL

09 **09 VAUXHALL 1.4 16v Design (a/c) 5-dr Automatic Hatchback.** In black with black interior, cd, alloy wheels, electric mirrors and windows, auto dipping rear view mirror, only 8,020 miles..... **£10,995**

09 **09 VAUXHALL Corsa Club A/C 1.2 16v 5-Dr.** In black sapphire, with cable charcoal interior, air con, colour coded bumpers, CD, alarm and immobiliser, auxiliary output, only 18,218 miles..... **£7,995**

09 **09 CHEVROLET Aveo LT 1.4** in pearl black with bricket cloth, aircon, alloy wheels, colour coded bumpers, alarm and immobiliser, cd, only 16,900 miles..... **£5,995**

08 **58 VAUXHALL Corsa 1.2 16v Design (A/C).** 5 door in ice blue with dark interior, air con, MP3 input, colour coded bumpers, front fog lights, only 19,950 miles..... **£7,995**

08 **08 FORD KA Studio.** In panther black with cascade interior, immobiliser, CD, drivers airbag, central locking, only 32,349 miles **£4,995**

08 **08 FORD Fiesta 1.25 Style climate 3-dr hatchback.** In panther black with ebony interior, quick clear front screen, air con, cd, colour coded bumpers, only 23,275 miles **£6,495**

07 **07 RENAULT Clio Dynamique 1.4 5-dr Hatchback.** In silver with black interior, alloy wheels, colour coded bumpers, fog lights, only 37,550 miles **£6,495**

07 **07 VAUXHALL Corsa 1.2i 16v life (a/c) 3-dr hatchback easy tronic.** In metro blue with punch cloth charcoal interior, electric mirrors, air con, immobiliser, service history, only 17,900 miles..... **£6,495**

06 **06 RENAULT Clio 1.2 16v Extreme 3-dr Hatchback.** In platinum silver with grey interior, alloy wheels, steering wheel mounted audio controls, colour coded bumpers, CD, only 19,860 miles..... **£4,995**

06 **55 FORD Fiesta 1.25 Style Climate 3-dr.** In tonic blue with Kyoto ebony interior, air con, quickclear front screen, cd, trip computer, colour coded bumpers, only 41,820 miles..... **£5,295**

06 **06 FORD Ka 1.3 Collection.** In panther black with Tic-Toc interior, cd, body coloured bumpers, immobiliser, only 30,866 miles **£4,195**

04 **53 VAUXHALL Corsa 1.2 16v Active 3-Dr Hatchback.** In ultra blue with points charcoal interior, air con, colour coded bumpers, CD and alloy wheels, only 62,825 miles..... **£3,395**

04 **04 FORD Ka 1.6 Sport 3-dr hatchback.** Magnum grey with streetline dark interior, colour coded bumpers, front fog lights, electric windows, alloy wheels, cd, only 40,955 miles **£3,895**

03 **53 MINI Cooper 1.6 Pepper.** In pure silver met with Kaleido half leather interior, panormaic sunroof, alloy wheels, cd, body coloured bumpers, only 49,540 miles..... **£6,995**

03 **03 MINI Cooper Chilli 1.6 3-dr Hatchback.** In pure silver with anthracite/black panther cloth/leather interior, interior light package, chrome line exterior, air con, CD, only 36,975 miles **£6,995**

03 **03 RENAULT Clio 1.2 16v Expression 5-dr Hatchback.** In capsicum red with grey interior, CD, sunroof, power steering, service history, only 58,105 miles..... **£3,295**

01 **Y VOLKSWAGEN Polo 1.4S 3-dr.** In reflex silver met with Pepe interior, sunroof, body coloured bumpers, cd, immobiliser, full VW service history, only 68,350 miles **£3,495**

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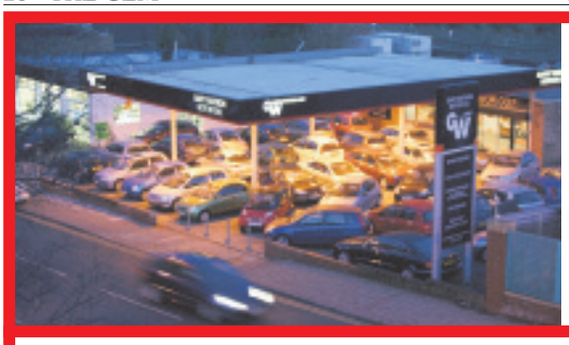

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02 MERCEDES SLK 320 'Designo' Auto in met blue with full leather trim, 35,000 miles, local convertible at **£9,995**

07 VAUXHALL Tigra 1.4 Exclusive. In silver, 22,000 miles, full electric metal roof convertible **£8,995**

52 BMW 318Ci Convertible in met blue with navy hood, 58,000 miles. On offer at **£8.995**

Y PEUGEOT 206 2.0SE Convertible. In bright green metallic with black leather, low mileage..... **£3,995**

03 MAZDA MX5 1.8. In met blue, great looking car with alloys, cd, etc **£5,995**

SPORT, PRESTIGE & 4X4

07	**MERCEDES CL500 Auto.** In silver with full black leather trim, 25,000 miles, host of extras on this luxury coupe	REDUCED TO £42,995
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54	**BMW 330 Ci Sport Convertible.** In steel grey, 62,000 miles with sat-nav, tv, etc	£12,995
05	**MERCEDES CLK 220 CDi Automatic.** In tellluar silver with full leather trim, 60,000 miles	£12,995
03	**BMW X5 3.0i Sport Auto.** In silver with black leather trim, 62,000 miles, 2 owners from new	£11,495
07	**MERCEDES C200 Diesel Avante Garde SE Automatic.** In silver, low running costs, one owner example at	£10,995
07	**VW Golf 1.9TDi 5-dr.** In silver, 45,000 miles, looks and drives superb	£8,995
07	**VAUXHALL Tigra 1.4 Exclusive.** In silver, 22,000 miles, full electric metal roof convertible	£8,995
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05	**SUZUKI Grand Vitara 2.0 5-dr.** In met-gold, 55,000 miles with a/c, cd, side steps, etc	£5,995
04	**MAZDA RX8 192.** In steel grey, stylish sports coupe at	£5,995
04	**VW Passat 1.9TDi SE Automatic.** In silver with black leather trim, on offer at	£5,995
04	**JAGUAR S-Type 2.5 Sport Automatic.** In silver with black leather, looks and drives superb	£5,995
03	**MAZDA MX5 1.8.** In met blue, great looking car with alloys, cd, etc	£5,995
02	**LEXUS GS300 SE Navigator.** In claret metallic with light grey leather trim, 75,000 miles, looks and drives superb	REDUCED BY £1000 TO £5,995
02	**BMW 316 SE.** In silver, 78,000 miles with a/c, alloys etc	£4,695
51	**TOYOTA Celica 1.8VVTi.** In blue, 75,000 miles with glass roof, rear spoiler, etc	REDUCED BY £500 TO £4,495
51	**JAGUAR X-Type 2.5V6 SE.** In satin gold with cream leather trim, 66,000 miles, 2 owner car at	£4,295
04	**ALFA ROMEO 156 1.8 Twin Spark Lusso.** In Monza green metallic, 86,000 miles, on offer at	£2,995

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09	**SKODA Fabia TDi2 1.4 5-dr.** 6,400 miles, alloys, air con, makers warranty, £30 road tax, silver	£8,995
07	**SKODA Octavia 1.9TDCi.** In silver, 37,000 mile diesel at	£7,995
06	**VW Golf 1.6 FSi SE 5-Dr.** In silver, 51,000 miles with air con, alloys etc	£7,495
06	**FORD Fiesta 2.0 ST.** In silver, 39,000 miles with a/c, on offer at	£6,995
06	**RENAULT Grand Scenic 1.6 Dynamique.** In silver, 46,000 miles, 2 owners, 7 seater	£6,995
04	**VW Golf 1.6 FSi SE 5-dr.** In met-blue, 41,000 miles, 1 owner, 6-speed, alloys etc	£6,995
04	**MINI One.** In chilli red, 50,000 miles. Local car with a/c, alloys, etc	£6,495
04	**VW Beetle 1.9 TDi.** In light met blue, 80,000 miles with air con	£5,995
56	**TOYOTA Yaris 1.3 LX 3-dr.** In silver, 21,000 miles, very sought-after model at	REDUCED BY £300 TO £5,995
56	**FORD Focus 1.6LX Estate.** Black, 20,146 miles, 1 owner, outstanding value	£5,995
05	**FORD Focus 1.6 Ghia 5-dr.** In silver, 37,000 miles, usual Ghia refinement	£5,995
54	**FORD Focus C Max 1.6 TDi.** Magnum grey, 36,000 miles, outstanding value & economy	£5,995
06	**PEUGEOT 407 2.0 HDi Zenith.** In met grey with full leather trim, climate control, H/S, alloys etc.	£5,695
07	**RENAULT Clio 12 Expression 3-dr.** In steel blue, 33,000 miles with a/c, c/d, etc	REDUCED BY £1,000 TO £5,495
56	**PEUGEOT 206 1.4 5-dr.** In satin silver, 40,000 miles, 1 owner example at	£4,995
55	**CITROEN C3 1.4 HDi SX 5-dr.** In met burgundy, £30 per year road tax	£4,995
55	**NISSAN Primara 2.0 SX 5-dr.** In silver, 35,000 miles with sat-nav, alloys, reversing camera	REDUCED BY £500 TO £4,995
06	**PEUGEOT 206 1.4 Verve 5-dr.** In electric blue, great looking car at	£4,995
05	**FORD Street Ka.** Silver, 1 owner, low mileage, very attractive convertible.	REDUCED BY £300 TO £4,995
04	**RENAULT Belling 1.6 Expression Automatic.** In silver, very low mileage example at	£4,995
04	**HONDA Civic 1.7 CTDi SE 5-dr.** In black, 59,000 miles, diesel hatch at	£4,995
55	**FORD Fiesta 1.2 Style Climate 3-dr.** Silver, 47,000 miles with alloys, CD etc.	£4,695
02	**PEUGEOT 206 2.0 Convertible.** In electric blue, 59,000 miles with a host of extras.	£4,695
57	**CHEVROLET Lacetti 1.6 SX Estate.** In met blue, a/c, alloys, roof rails, fantastic value at	£4,495
05	**FORD Mondeo Zetec TDCi.** Tonic blue, 2 owners, very economical family car	£4,495
05	**DIAHATSU Sirion 1.3 SE 5-dr.** In silver, 16,000 miles, 1 private owner, fantastic condition	£4,495
55	**PEUGEOT 206 1.4 Sport 3-dr.** In silver, 41,000 miles, air con, alloys etc	£4,495
54	**FORD Focus 1.8 Edge 3-dr.** In met-black, 41,000 miles, a/c, alloys etc	£4,295
55	**VAUXHALL Agila 1.2 Twinport Envoy.** 37,000 miles, much sought after model	£3,995
55	**FORD Ka 1.3 Collection.** In light metallic blue, 25,000 miles with a/c, cd, etc	£3,995
06	**MITSUBISHI Colt 1.2 C2i 3-dr.** In light met-blue, 1 owner, CD, e/w, c/l etc.	£3,995
06	**CHEVROLET Kalos 1.4 Sport 3-dr.** In black, with black leather trim, 37,000 miles	REDUCED BY £700 TO £3,995
04	**PEUGEOT 206 1.1S 3-dr.** In silver, 32,000 miles, 1 owner with a/c	£3,995
55	**CHEVROLET Kalos 1.4 SXi 3-dr.** In black, 39,000 miles, fantastic value at	£3,695
05	**CHEVROLET Tacuma 1.6 SX.** Silver, 44,500 miles, excellent value family car	£3,695
06	**FORD Ka Collection.** In met-black, 56,000 miles, 1 private owner	£3,495
04	**RENAULT Laguna Dynamique 1.8 Estate.** Full panoramic roof, silver, tremendous value	£3,495
52	**SMART Pulse softop semi automatic.** In two tone black and met grey, 37,000 miles	£3,295
04	**PEUGEOT 406 2.0 HDi S.** In silver, 54,000 miles with sat nav	£3,295
53	**FORD Ka Collection.** In sea - frost silver, 47,000 miles, very attractive low mileage car	REDUCED BY £300 TO £2,995
05	**DAEWOO Lacetti 1.6 SXi 5-Dr.** In silver, 31,000 miles with air con, alloys, CD etc.	£2.995
X	**PEUGEOT 206 Roland Garros 5-dr.** Green, suede leather seats, a/c, panoramic roof, 1 lady owner, 47,826 miles.	£2,995
02	**RENAULT Clio 1.2 Authentique 5-dr.** In white, low mileage local car on offer at.	£2,695
Y	**TOYOTA Yaris 1.0 3-dr.** In red, 50,000 miles, one local owner.	£2,695
53	**FORD Ka 1.3i** In blue, 48,000 miles, 1 local owner	REDUCED BY £500 TO £2,495
53	**DAEWOO Matiz 796cc Extra.** In met bronze, 42,000 miles with CD	£2,495

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08 08	**KA 1.3 Style.** Climate, air con, quick clear, electric	£4,495
08 08	**KA 1.3 Style.** C/locking, elec windows, choice	£4,195
07 07	**KA 1.3 Style.** Elec windows, c/locking	£3,795
07 56	**KA 1.3 Zetec.** Air con, alloys, cd	£3,995
10 10	**FIESTA 1.4 Titanium 3-dr.** Alloys, climate, privacy	£10,995
10 10	**FIESTA 1.4 Zetec 3-dr.** Alloys, air con	£10,495
10 59	**FIESTA 1.25 Zetec 3-dr.** Alloys, air con, vision blue	£9,995
09 59	**FIESTA 1.4 TDCi Zetec 5-dr.** Air con, bluetooth, avalon	£10,995
09 09	**FIESTA 1.6 Zetec-S.** Air con, alloys, sea grey	£10,495
09 09	**FIESTA 1.25 Style 3-dr.** cd, electrics	£7,495
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09 58	**FIESTA 1.25 Style+ 3-dr.** Air con, quickclear	£7,995
07 07	**FIESTA 1.6 Ghia 5-dr Automatic.** Full leather, alloys, air con	£6,995
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07 07	**FIESTA 1.25 Style Climate 3-dr.** Air con, cd, electrics, pantha black	£4,995
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04 54	**FIESTA 1.4 Zetec 3-dr.** Alloys, cd, pantha black	£2,995
01 Y	**FIESTA 1.25 Freestyle.** Air con, alloys, electrics	£1,295
09 59	**FUSION 1.4 Zetec 5-dr.** Alloys, air con, quickclear, choice	£8,495
08 08	**FUSION 1.6 TDCi Zetec Climate.** Alloys, air con, cd, privacy	£7,495
08 08	**FUSION 1.4 Style Climate.** Air con, quickclear	£6,295
07 07	**FUSION 1.4 Zetec 5-dr.** Alloys, air con, cd	£5,995
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10 10	**FOCUS RS.** Recaro seats, ultimate green, Sony 6 disc, bluetooth, air con	£25,495
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09 09	**FOCUS 1.6 Style 5-dr.** Air con, cd, electrics	£8,295
08 08	**FOCUS 1.8 Titanium 5-dr.** Privacy, climate, alloys, under 6,300 miles	£8,995
08 08	**FOCUS 1.8 Titanium 3-dr.** Privacy, alloys, climate, sea grey or pantha black	£8,695
07 07	**FOCUS 1.6 Zetec 5-dr Auto.** Air con, quickclear, alloys, choice	£6,495
07 07	**FOCUS 1.6 Zetec Climate 5-dr Auto.** Alloys, air con, cd, electrics, moondust	£5,995
07 07	**FOCUS 1.6 Zetec 5-dr.** Air con, alloys, quickclear, electrics	£6,295
07 07	**FOCUS 1.8 Sport 5-dr.** Alloys, cd, air con aquarius blue	£5,995
06 06	**FOCUS 1.6 Zetec Climate 5-dr Auto.** Alloys, air con, cd, tonic blue	£5,695
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06 06	**FOCUS 1.6 LX 5-dr.** Air con, cd, electrics, pantha black	£4,995
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03 03	**FOCUS ST 170 3-dr.** Climate control, 6 disc cd, xeon headlamps, very low miles	£4,995
09 09	**FOCUS C-Max1.6 Style.** Sports pack, privacy, 16inch Y-spoke alloys	£8,995
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04 04	**FOCUS C-Max 1.6TDCi LX 5-dr.** Air con, electrics, cd	£4,495
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06 06	**MONDEO 2.0 Ghia 5-dr Auto.** Alloys, climate, Sony cd, tonic blue	£6,495
07 07	**S-Max 2.0 LX MPV 7-seats.** Air con, electrics, tango red	£9,695
06 56	**S-Max 2.0 TDCi Zetec.** Full leather trim, elec handbrake, alloys	£10,995
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08 58	**CHEVROLET Aveo 1.2 LS 5-dr.** Air con, electrics	£4,995
08 58	**CHEVROLET Matiz 1.0 SE+ 5-dr.** Air con, cd, electrics	£3,995
08 08	**CHEVROLET Matiz 1.0 SE+ 5-dr.** Air con, cd, electrics, choice	£3,795
07 57	**CHEVROLET Matiz 1.0 SE+ 5-dr.** Air con, cd, electrics, choice	£3,495
05 05	**CHEVROLET Matiz 1.0 SE+ 5-dr.** Air con, cd, electrics, silver	£1,995
07 57	**CITROEN C2 1.6 Code.** Alloys, cd, full tan, leather, black	£6,495
05 54	**CITROEN C3 1.4 5-dr Sensodrive Stop + Start.** Climate, cd, electrics	£3,995
06 56	**MAZDA '2' Capella 5-dr.** Alloys, air con, cd, electrics	£4,695
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05 05	**MGTF 1.8 Sunstorm 158ps, hard top.** Alloys, leather, air con	£4,495
08 08	**MITSUBISHI Colt 1.5 Di D 5-dr CZ2, Automatic.** Alloys, air con	£6,495
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06 06	**NISSAN Note 1.6 SE Automatic.** 5-dr, air con, alloys	£5,295
03 03	**NISSAN Micra 1.2S 3-dr new shape.** Pas, electrics	£1,995
07 07	**PEUGEOT 107 1.0 Urban 5-dr.** Air con electrics, red	£4,995
03 03	**PEUGEOT 206 1.6 Coupe CAB.** Alloys, air con, cd	£3,995
02 02	**PEUGEOT 307 2.0 HDi SE 5-dr.** Alloys, air con, cd	£3,995
09 09	**RENAULT Scenic 1.6 Dynamique MPV.** Alloys, air con, electrics	£8,495
07 57	**RENAULT Scenic 1.6 Dynamique MPV.** Alloys, air con, rain/headlamp sensors	£6,795
07 57	**RENAULT Clio 1.4 Dynamique 3-dr.** Alloys, electrics, cd, silver	£6,295
07 07	**RENAULT Scenic 1.6 Dynamique MPV.** Alloys, cd, air con, rain/headlamp, 6 speed, sensors, choice	£5,995
07 07	**RENAULT Clio 1.4 Privilege 5-dr.** Alloys, air con, cd, electrics, choice	£5,995
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05 05	**VAUXHALL Zafira 1.9 CDTi 120ps.** Alloys, air con, privacy	£3,495
09 59	**VW Polo 1.2 Match 5-dr.** Alloys, air con, MP3, fogs, choice	£8,295
09 59	**VW Polo 1.2 Match 3-dr.** Alloys, air con, MP3	£7,995
09 09	**VW Polo 1.2 Match 5-dr.** Alloys, MP3 player, air con, fogs	£7,495
04 54	**VW Golf 1.9 TDiS 5-dr.** Air con, cd, new model	£5,995

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GEM sport

Rosa sets her record on international weekend!

ABOVE: Seven Bridgend athletes who competed in the UK Schools games

BRIDGEND Athletics Club is celebrating after seven members were selected to represent the Welsh Schools in the recent SIAB Athletics competition in Glasgow.

They were: Morgan Davies (3,000 metres); Hannah Greenslade (hammer); Ffion Lewis (3,000 metres); Katie Lewis (80m hurdles); Rhianydd Llewellyn (pole vault); Jamie Morris (long jump and 4 x 100m relay); and Lora Roberts (800 metres).

There was lots of excitement on the morning of the competition. The seven Bridgend athletes performed extremely well and it was obvious how proud they all were to represent their country.

Medal winners were Rhianydd Llewellyn, who was third in the pole vault, and Jamie Morris who won a silver medal as part of the 4 x 100m team.

On the same weekend Bridgend Athletics competed in the final NYAL fixture, which was held at Leckwith Stadium, Cardiff.

A total of 47 Bridgend athletes competed and, with excellent performances, the club finished in second place, just missing out to Bath Athletics Club by 13 points.

The most remarkable run of the competition was from Rosa Yates in the under-13 1,200m race, which she won by an incredible 40 seconds, running on her own flat out from gun to tape.

In the process, she broke an 11-year-old league record by five seconds. It turned out to be the fastest time ever by an under-13 girl in the UK. The previous record had stood since 2004.

Not a bad day for this surperb athlete – breaking a League, Welsh and UK record, all in the same race!

Joanna Roberts

RIGHT: The launch was opened by Natalie Davies's dance crew Contagious.

Champion Nicole is back in class with Olympic message

FORMER Brynteg Comprehensive pupil Nicole Cooke, who has achieved fame as world champion cyclist and Olympic gold medalist, returned to her old school to launch the UK wide Young Ambassadors Scheme.

The Wick cyclist took time out of her busy training schedule to recognise the contributions of three exceptional students from Bridgend county borough.

Natalie Davies (16) from Maesteg Comprehensive School, Jamie Evans (18) from Brynteg Comprehensive School and Keiran Joynson (17) from Ynysawdre Comprehensive School, were all selected by the active young people department for their outstanding commitment as young leaders or volunteers.

All three have achieved the role of a gold ambassador. The role encourages young people to take on leadership roles – while promoting a healthy and active lifestyle and spreading the word of the Olympic and Paralympic values of respect, friendship, personal excellence, courage, determination, inspiration and equality.

The students, together with other junior leaders, headteacher Dr Davies and senior staff from Brynteg Comprehensive School, took part in an invigorating question and answer session with the world champion.

Natalie Davies, gold award Ambassador commented: "It was great to hear how Nicole was inspired at a young age to achieve her dream of becoming an Olympic Champion, I would encourage anyone interested in sport to get involved."

Nicole commented: "The Young Ambassador Movement is an exciting initiative which will recognise and reward our young sports leaders who are making a positive difference within our communities."

Sony UK Youth Games come to the borough

MORE than 1,000 pupils from 12 local schools took part in the Sony UK Youth Games at Bridgend Recreation Centre recently.

Mayor Colin Teesdale opened the games, and team leaders led a colourful flag procession, all wearing t-shirts to correspond with their assigned country.

Mayor Teesdale said: "The day really did take on an Olympic theme with all participating schools representing a different country. All the schools were fantastic, showing exceptional talent in their chosen sports and demonstrated outstanding fair play throughout the event.

"This was a very exciting event for all and I am extremely proud of the partnership working shown before and during this event."

Jane Thomas, Active Young People manager added: "With the London 2012 Olympic and Paralympic Games, fast approaching we wanted this year's youth games to inspire and motivate the young people of Bridgend and I certainly feel we achieved our goal".

Events ranged from girls' rugby and football to basketball – and all in true Olympic spirit.

Local sports clubs and organisations assisted with activities and special guests, Steve Dalton, managing director of Sony UK Pencoed Technology Park and Susie Osborne from Sport Wales, showed their support, alongside Cougars basketball and Ospreys rugby players who presented the winning teams with their medals.

A spokeswoman stated: "Bridgend County Borough Council is driving forward high quality services to encourage regular participation in sport and physical activity, in line with the targets set by the Welsh Assembly Government's 'Climbing Higher' strategy.

"The overall aim is that participation in sport and physical activity will increase each year for the next 20 years and the Sony UK County Youth Games is one event that hopes to support this."

Chance to make a big splash for local children's charity

'Paddle for Life' is coming to Newton Beach.

A 'Paddle for Life' watersport challenge in aid of Save the Children on August 21 on Newton Beach, Porthcawl, promises to be a fun day out for all the family.

Entrants in a raft race will be faced with the task of building a sturdy raft to hold four to 10 team members. They must then paddle their raft around a designated course in the fastest possible time.

There will be a £50 entry fee per raft and a minimum sponsorship fee of £50, with the money going towards Save the Children.

Entrants must be 16+ years of age. A £10 entry fee and a minimum sponsorship fee of £10 will be charged for paddle board and kayaking competitions.

'Paddle for Life' is the brainchild of Lee Garbett, proprietor of Quest Adventures in Porthcawl, who hopes that it will develop into an annual event.

He said: "'Paddle for Life' has something to offer everyone and it's an event that you will want to pencil in your calendar every year!

"If you don't fancy getting your feet wet then join in with our beach activities.

"We will have a barbecue, volley ball competition, beach rugby and football, children's fancy dress parade, sand castle competition to name a few. Don't miss out on the excitement that both 'Paddle for Life' and Porthcawl has to offer – join now, make a difference, have fun and save lives."

For further information on how you can enter the 'Paddle for Life' event contact 01656 783310 / 029 20303545 / 0870 24 24 886 or email team@ocean-quest.co.uk. Also visit the website www.quest-adventures.co.uk to download a registration form.

Pencoed climb out of basement

PENCOED Leprecons picked up a first win of the season in the Bridgend six-a-side football league after Ryan Newman proved the difference in a 2-1 victory over Hangover Heroes.

Croissants continued their 100 per cent record as they beat Bulldogs 3-1.

In division one, Dead End Jobs, But Football Gods edged to a 2-1 victory over Minter Phoenix, while Persil Boys were grateful to Jason Thorne as they ran out 3-1 victors against Laleston Lions.

Anyone who wants to join the six-a-side football leagues in Bridgend can ring 0845 230 2340 or visit www.leisureleagues.net

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